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THE TIMES

Mr Bell's 'electric toy' by Asa Briggs, page 14

S urged to pend more narrowing arms gap

etween Soviet armament programmes of the United States is bigger than had icated, Mr Donald Rumsfeld, the Defence Secretary, told the Senate ommittee yesterday, quoting a new If the country wished to maintain quivalence" with the Soviet Union, he is imperative to call a halt immediately line in American defence efforts.

w analysis reveals oviet advantage

, March 9.—Mr feld, the American f Defence, today ss to take steps to adverse trend" in s military capabil- ed to those of the

eld told the Senate nittee that a new ed that the Soviet ogramme exceed United States by r than those indi- h ago. He spoke in proposed budget of bout £56,350m) for Department in the r 1976-77.

t unless the record was approved, the s would have to policy of having itary power to "rough equiva-

not propose to at policy", Mr id. "The American ot want that policy less the steady de- ited States defence tive to those of the ion is halted, the es, by that failure, ting a policy of less equivalence.

ict, not hypothesis, ited States on a has steadily re- s and defence hile the Soviets increased. The halt is now."

senator if the icetime budget he end of deteme" d said deteme nean friendship". I it sensible to try level of confronta- ust be done "with open".

ot set a deadline t with the Soviet ew strategic arms eaty, but would he basis of United y interests.

ible, he said, for States to see, and carefully, cts could be found uld agree with the "But it does not succeed", he said. greement was not President might plemental budget ngress. Mr Rums- he committee that there was no padding in the budget as a hedge against a congressional cut.

Since 1970, Mr Rumsfeld said, the Soviet military programme has exceeded that of the United States each year. Last year it did so by about 42 per cent. The Soviet effort was outstripping that of the United States in virtually every important component of military programmes. He noted particularly:

1. The procurement of a new generation of Soviet intercontinental ballistic missiles, in which he said Soviet procurement costs were about three-and-a-half times those of the United States.
2. The procurement of new and more sophisticated Soviet aircraft at a rate 30 per cent higher last year than that of the United States.
3. The procurement of naval ships which, he said, over the 1965-1975 period exceeded that of the United States by 70 per cent, and by 90 per cent in 1975.

The Soviet naval shipbuilding capacity had been expanded and had produced about 800 ships for the Soviet Navy since 1965; the United States during the same period produced about 300 naval ships, he said. In the past three years the Russians had produced almost six times as many tanks, three times as many armoured personnel carriers, and nine times as many artillery pieces.

Recently the Army announced that it planned to bolster the number and effectiveness of United States anti-tank helicopters stationed at West German Nato bases. It did not say how many Pershings it has stationed in Europe.—AP.

Heidelberg, March 9.—The United States Army, facing numerically superior conventional Soviet forces in Europe, said today in a statement that it was speeding up its ability to fire Pershing surface to surface missiles. The Pershing, capable of carrying a nuclear warhead, has a range of between 100 and 420 nautical miles.

The Army said new missile equipment would "reduce launch reaction time and eliminate any chance of human error in targeting".—AP.

42 plunge to death in Alpine cable car crash

From Patricia Clough
Rome, March 9

Forty-two skiers plunged 200ft to their death in a mountain cable car tonight near the winter sports centre of Cavallese in the Italian Dolomites. Police said there was one survivor.

The victims are believed to be mostly Italians, Germans and Austrians and it is not thought that there were any Britons in the car. They were all returning from an afternoon's skiing on Mount Cermis when, about 450ft from their destination, their cable car crashed into a field below.

The cause of the accident, the worst in Italian Alpine history, is being investigated but police said that, according to first reports, the load-bearing cable appeared to have snapped.

Another report, as yet unconfirmed, was that the car crashed after being slammed against a second car by a gust of wind.

Most of the victims died instantly, but about five died later from their injuries.

Police mountain rescue teams rushed to the scene and helicopters ferried the injured to hospital in Cavallese and Bolzano. Meanwhile, at the scene of the crash, rescuers worked with oxy-acetylene torches to extract the bodies from the tangled wreckage.

Worst in history: Yesterday's crash was the worst in the history of cable car transport. The previous highest toll was recorded in 1966, when 16 people died after a car plunged into a valley in Taiwan.

The most spectacular cable car crash was in 1961 when a French Sabre jet fighter severed the cable of a route up Mont Blanc, hurling three cabins on to the rocks below. Six people died.

A crash at Brig, in Switzerland, in 1972 took 13 lives.

Mr Wilson speaks of 'South African role' in Thorpe affair

By Michael Hatfield

The Prime Minister yesterday surprised the Commons—and apparently Mr Thorpe in particular—by referring to South African involvement in some of the events surrounding the leader of the Liberal Party.

His comments were prompted by questions in the Chamber, the first from Mr James Wellbeloved, Labour MP for Bexley, Erith and Crayford, who asked Mr Wilson if he had received any evidence about the involvement of South African agents in the "framing" of leading Liberal Party members.

Mr Wilson is not usually tempted to stray into comments on delicate matters affecting other politicians, but his comment was:

"I have no doubt that there is strong South African participation in recent activities relating to the leader of the Liberal Party, based on massive reserves of business money and private agents of various kinds of qualities. I have no evidence that the South African Government or agencies or agents have any connexion with these unsavoury activities."

Mr Thorpe was observed to be listening with rapt attention. He said afterwards that he was surprised by what Mr Wilson had said in the House. What could not be ascertained, however, was whether there have been recent private conversations between the two.

The Prime Minister is understood to have reasons for believing that South African finance is being used in a campaign to damage Mr Thorpe, and that a writer is intent upon keeping the "Scott affair" before the South African press.

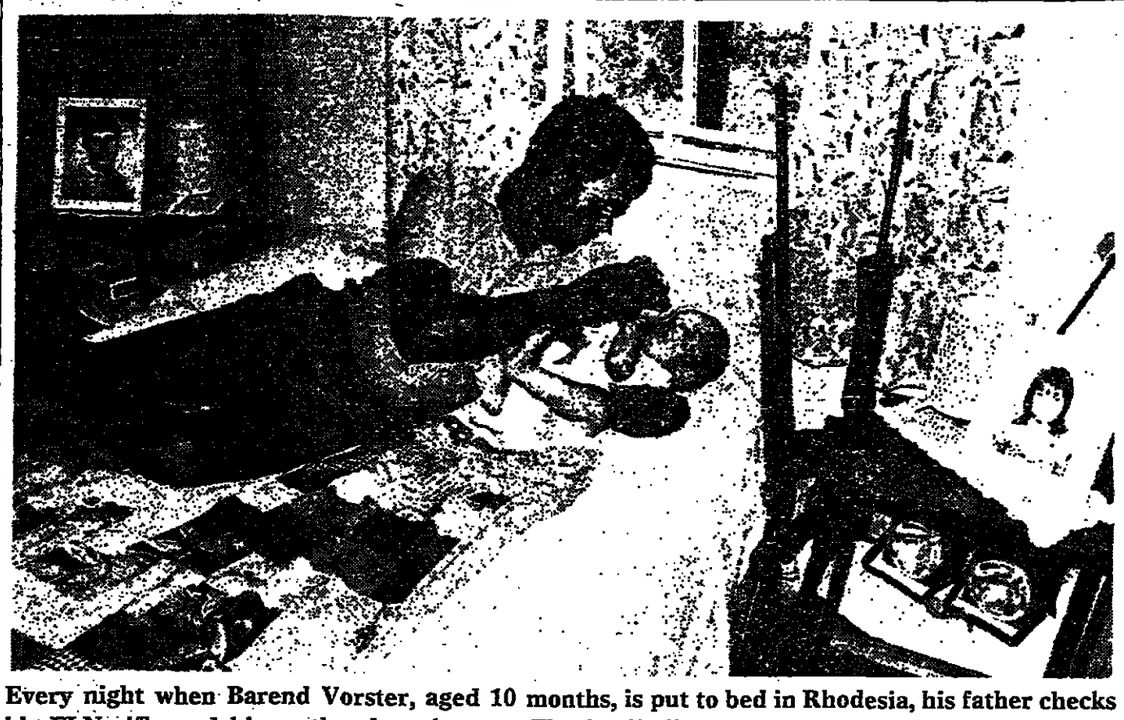
In reply to a question from Mr John Pardoe, Liberal MP for Cornwall, North, he replied: "I said there was no evidence of South African Government participation in this matter. I referred to some very strong and heavily financed masterminding of certain political operations.

"Anyone in this House concerned with democracy will feel revolted with the fact that we are going to have to face this sort of thing in so far as the leaders of any party or of all parties are concerned."

Mr Wilson's intervention in the difficulties besetting the Liberal leader, although made from an oblique angle, was not the only development yesterday. Late last night Mr Richard Wainwright, Liberal MP for Colne Valley, had a private meeting with Mr Thorpe at which, it is believed, he told him that the party should have an election for the leadership in June.

Mr Wainwright has expressed the view that it could be highly damaging for the party if the proposed election was held at the time of the annual party conference.

Continued on page 2, col 1



Every night when Barend Vorster, aged 10 months, is put to bed in Rhodesia, his father checks his FLN rifle and his mother her shotgun. The family live on a farm close to the Mozambique frontier under threat of guerrilla attack. Rhodesia confident, page 8.

Safety move after new asbestos link with cancer

By Neville Hodgkinson

An urgent review of precautions surrounding the use of asbestos has been started by the Health and Safety Executive in the light of a growing body of evidence that it is a potent cause of cancer.

In certain forms it is feared to be a threat to the public as well as to those working with it; yet because of its resistance to heat and acid it is in widespread household and industrial use.

Factory inspectors are being asked to report on the degree of compliance with and difficulties of enforcement of the *Asbestos Regulations of 1969*. There is particular concern over demolition and delagging work, because of the large amounts of asbestos dust that may be released into the atmosphere.

The Asbestos Regulations do not specify obligations to those who are not workpeople, and an extension of the Health and Safety Executive's powers may be sought to improve the protection given to the public.

Warnings to home handymen about the dangers of inhaling the dust while working with asbestos products, and of the need to seal them to prevent fibres flaking off and contaminating the home, are being worked out between the Department of Prices and Consumer Protection and the asbestos industry, with help from the Employment Medical Advisory Service.

It is nearly eight years since a recommendation that such warnings should be issued was made by the standing subcommittee on cancer of the Department of Health's standing medical advisory committee.

In a confidential report entitled *Control of the cancer hazard due to asbestos to the general population* the committee said it had been shown that mesothelioma, a malignant tumour originating in the lining of the chest or stomach, could be produced by slight exposure to asbestos, and that on present knowledge it had to be assumed that no amount of exposure was completely free from the risk.

The report, which has only just come to light, added: "The use of asbestos is so widespread that it is not practicable to reduce exposure by protecting individual members of the public and efforts should be concentrated on reducing the amount of asbestos dust in the atmosphere."

When the advisory committee's report was written, the observed annual incidence of mesothelioma deaths had risen

Continued on page 2, col 6

National Institute calls for 6% pay ceiling to spur recovery

By Our Business News Staff

Britain's economic prospects for 1977 depend on the success of the current round of pay policy negotiations, the National Institute of Economic and Social Research says in its *latest Economic Review*, published today.

If earnings growth is contained to 6 per cent from the third quarter in 1976 to the same period in 1977 inflation will decline and output will continue to recover next year, it says.

The institute contrasts the case for 6 per cent earnings growth with a 20 per cent earnings growth which, it suggests, "could occur either if there were no pay agreement or if an agreement was rapidly broken by a few major settlements".

A 20 per cent earnings growth's main effect would be to raise inflation considerably, and a return to rapid inflation would have adverse effects on confidence and business finances, which would soon check output growth and raise unemployment.

"By the beginning of 1978, the United Kingdom would once again be in a state of crisis", the review says.

On the 6 per cent earnings growth assumption, the outlook is more optimistic. But despite the more moderate inflation and stronger output which would ensue, unemployment would still rise slightly and "*the current account deficit of the balance of payments would remain high and broadly unchanged*" in 1977.

The National Institute is relatively confident about the economy this year. It sees a modest recovery in output and a substantial decline in the rate of inflation in the months ahead. *This is based on the assumption that the £6-a-week pay policy holds.*

Consumer prices are expected to be just over 10 per cent higher in the fourth quarter of 1976 than the same period in 1975.

Gross domestic product over the year as a whole is forecast to rise by 1.3 per cent, despite a 1.7 per cent fall in consumption, a 0.9 per cent decline in gross fixed investment and a large balance of payments deficit. Unemployment will stand at more than 1.3 million by the end of the year.

Over the medium-term, the persistence of the balance of payments deficit is seen as the main problem for policymakers.

The National Institute is particularly concerned that "there appears to be little prospect of the United Kingdom attaining full employment and current account balance by 1980, without substantial further improvements in its international competitiveness or equivalent measures to shift resources into the external balance".

It proposes two ways of securing increased price competitiveness—a faster depreciation of the exchange rate with money wage growth unchanged, or a lower growth of money wages with an unchanged exchange rate profile.

The review suggests that interest rate policy is being determined by the need to preserve a differential with interest rates in other countries while the authorities are managing a downward depreciation of the pound.

Successful completion of incomes policy negotiations, if accompanied by a small depreciation, would allow the Chancellor of the Exchequer "a small amount of room for tax reliefs" in the Budget, it adds.

Train drivers' dispute may be extended

By Tim Jones
Labour Staff

Talks aimed at ending the dispute between Eastern Region train drivers and British Rail broke down last night after two hours. The executive of the men's union meets today to decide whether to give official backing to the dispute in the knowledge that some members in the London Midland and Western Regions have discussed industrial action in sympathy. The prospects for passengers on the Eastern Region today appear bad.

Mr Ray Buckton, general secretary of the Associated Society of Locomotive Engineers and Firemen (Aslef), appealed at the meeting for the British Railways Board to revert to the position which applied before the route changes which caused the dispute came into operation. But Mr Clifford Rose, personnel executive director of the board, said it was not prepared to do so.

The dispute resulted from the action of Mr Bernard Diamond, of the Holbeck depot at Leeds, who refused on Monday to drive an early morning train, claiming it was the work of a driver from Sheffield. Mr Diamond was sent home and an unofficial dispute resulted.

Eastern Region maintained that the dispute was over relatively minor route changes which it had introduced after months of inconclusive negotiations.

Mr Buckton was highly critical of what he termed a failure to use the proper negotiating channels by the British Railways Board. "I appeal to British Rail even now to look again at the position."

The dispute could continue until further talks on Friday at the joint consultative council of British Rail.

All sleeper trains between Aberdeen, Edinburgh and London were cancelled last night, and other services from King's Cross were affected, British Rail said.

Drivers from the depot at Stratford, east London, joined the strike at midday and drivers on Tyneside voted to go on strike from midnight.

The dispute is likely to bring increased road traffic during the morning and evening in north and north-east London, Scotland Yard said last night.

er trading, le pound es new low

erling on the world's money much calmer yesterday, ound lost a further 10 points ollar to close at a new low 115. The pound's "floating against 10 key currencies is 33.2 per cent. The Bank of gain thought to have stepped support yesterday, but on a scale than on Monday

Page 17

ripples France

hour strike by civil servants tor workers crippled France forced the Government to resumption of pay talks t week when it refused to inflation-linked wage offer

Page 7

eets claimant

arlos met his father, Don adrid yesterday, increasing hat the claimant to the e would renounce his claim is son. Don Juan, bypassed the succession issue, now in Portugal

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's struggle

hancellor of the Exchequer, le in the Commons with igers who harried him as he spending cuts in his White nditure

Pages 2 & 6

de ban attacked

Coleman, the Secretary for , who is also a distinguished esterday that the New York ing Concorde was unconsti-

Page 8

ds' 15-year high

ds launched more merchant 975 than in any year since nnage at 1.30 million was the industry's best year. ed 1.47 million tons

Page 17

Home for Turners at Somerset House

J. M. W. Turner's paintings are to be shown in a gallery in Somerset House, London. Leading British art and museum representatives decided in principle that some of the fine rooms should house a selection of the 300 oil and nearly 20,000 watercolours and drawings

Page 5

Nuclear ban rejected

Dr Kissinger, the American Secretary of State, yesterday rejected Senate suggestions that the United States should cut off nuclear supplies to France and West Germany. The move was urged as retaliation for the alleged failure of the two countries to restrain their nuclear exports

Page 8

Faberge in demand

The Robert Strauss collection of plant and animal models by Carl Faberge fetched *£304,860 at Christie's, half as much again* as the estimate. A vase of wild strawberries sold for £39,600 with premium

Page 16

Manchester United win

Manchester United beat Wolverhampton Wanderers 3—2 after extra time at Molineux last night to reach the semi-final of the FA Cup in which they play Derby County Geoffrey Green, page 10

Rates increases: Latest estimates on next year's level of rates show that the national average increase is likely to be about 8 to 9 per cent 4

Fraud penalty: Sentencing a Glasgow councillor to six months' imprisonment for fraud, Sheriff Charles Johnston said his leniency would not necessarily be extended for other likeminded people 5

Beirut: Lebanon fears that the actions of army mutineers in occupying a fort may cause an Israeli invasion 9

Channel Islands: Four-page Special Report discusses finance, property and tourism as a strategy to curb inflation takes effect

Newham inquiry over voting

Mr Reginald Underhill, Labour's national organizer, is to inquire into alleged voting *irregularities in Newham, North East*, constituency Labour Party which has dismissed Mr Prentice, Minister for Overseas Development, as a future Labour candidate

Page 2

Ulster outrage

Two Roman Catholic owners of the Golden Pheasant restaurant near Lisburn, Northern Ireland, were murdered during an attack by gunmen, believed to be "loyalists", in which their restaurant was destroyed. Members of the staff escaped from a locked store as the building burst into flames

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Leader page, 15
Letters: On problems of southern Africa from Mr H. H. McCleery and others; on press freedom from the President of the Guild of British Newspaper Editors and others
Leading articles: France and the left; Age of consent; Turner paintings
Features, pages 9 and 14
Fred Emery on how President Ford is attempting to resolve the CIA dilemma; Bernard Levin on press freedom
Arts, page 13
John Percival on the American Ballet Theatre in New York; William Gaunt on a centenary exhibition of Gwen John
Sport, pages 10 and 11
Racing: Jolly's Clump a doubtful runner for the Grand National; Michael Phillips visits the Noel Murless stable; Boxing: Nell Allen meets Muhammad Ali; Cricket: Plan for exchange of international umpires nearer fulfilment
Obituary, page 16
Mr Milton Waldman, Sgr Alfonso Gatto, Lord Canoys
Business News, pages 17-23
Stock markets: In quiet trading the FT index closed at 411.4, a drop of 0.1
Financial Editor: Fisons' rights; volume returns at BSR; Armstrong moves into top gear; diamond sales recover at De Beers
Business features: Oliver Stanley argues that much company taxation has become meaningless and is in need of reform; Frank Vogl reports on the American euphoria about economic prospects which he suggests is largely unwarranted
Business Diary: Shaikh Yamani and how not to enjoy a trip to Florida

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Royal Commission urges state aid for newspapers

By Paul Routledge
Labour Editor

The Royal Commission on the Press will publish its report on the finances of Fleet Street next week, and it will recommend government cash assistance to help national newspapers to meet the challenge of new printing technology.

The commission's report, delayed for more than a month to accommodate a joint submission from the employers and the unions, includes a proposal that the Government should provide loan capital to put the industry on a sound commercial footing.

The finance would not be made available to help ailing newspapers to continue trading although there are rumours in Westminster that two papers have already asked for such support, but to ease the transition to computer typesetting and allied technology, which could cost the industry up to 10,000 jobs over the next few years.

The interim report, requested as a matter of urgency by the Government last autumn, goes to ministers this weekend before publication next Wednesday. It comes down on the side of loans at preferential rates of interest rather than straight Treasury grants, which the newspaper publishers oppose on "press freedom" grounds.

In their joint submission, the *unions and the employers* dropped a clear hint that they could not carry through their agreed programme of labour cutbacks and improved technology without outside help.

Early talks between the two sides and the Department of Trade are likely if, as expected, the Cabinet accepts the interim report.

Apart from state cash aid, the proposals include adequate pensions for Fleet Street workers; handsome pay-offs for printers who accept voluntary redundancy; and improved retraining facilities both within the industry and for those unable to find jobs outside quickly.

Leaders of six printing industry unions yesterday reached agreement with the Newspaper Publishers Association on the terms of reference for a joint standing committee that will oversee the introduction of new technology and reduced manpower.

The new body will also be charged with securing the viability of the industry through joint action and the maintenance of employment levels "compatible with a company's long-term viability".

Evidence to commission, page 4

Soviet air crash kills 120 people

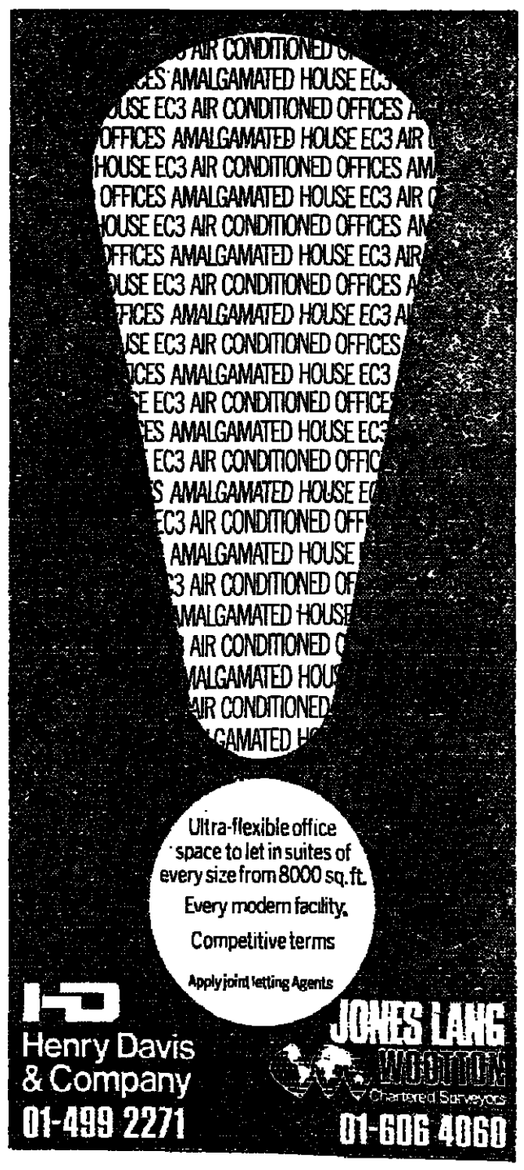
Moscow, March 9.—A Soviet Ilyushin 18 airliner crashed near Yerevan on Friday night, killing some 120 people, an unofficial Soviet source reported today.

The airliner, on an internal flight from Moscow to the Armenian capital, carried passengers from several East European countries and an Armenian sports team. Soviet newspapers failed to report the accident, as often happens when a Soviet aircraft crashes. But a list of victims was available at Yerevan airport.

Gunman seizes court officials

Bonn, March 9.—West German police were prepared for a siege tonight after a gunman seized two hostages and barricaded himself in an office at the state court building in Frankfurt. The hooded gunman burst into the courtroom where Herr Gerhard Linden is on trial for alleged robbery involving DM2m (£400,000), and demanded his release.

The raider forced two court officials into an office, locked himself in with them, and began making demands on the telephone.



HOME NEWS

Mr Thorpe finds the voters disillusioned with all politicians

By Penny Symon

Mr Jeremy Thorpe went on a swift canvassing tour of the Sutton, Carshalton constituency last night but was in no mood to answer questions about his future as leader of the Liberal Party.

Luckily, the electors who opened their doors to him did not bring up the subject. Most of them seemed surprised to see him on the doorstep, were polite, but expressed disillusionment with all politicians.

Mr Thorpe arrived about an hour and a half after a coach containing four Liberal MPs and supporters had arrived in the constituency, which goes to the polls tomorrow.

The coach, an orange flag fluttering bravely from its windows, set off to rally the residents of Carshalton Beeches.

Mr Thorpe, who arrived in a car driven by his secretary, said: "Naturally I was very interested in the Prime Minister's remarks about South Africa, but I cannot make any further comment. They were very significant remarks."

He said there was a new election procedure for leader and his future would be decided by his colleagues and himself, not by gossip, Fleet Street, radio or television.

Mr John Hatherley, the Liberal candidate, denied that the leadership crisis was affecting morale among party workers. He said that people were not mentioning it much on the doorsteps as he went round canvassing.

In a message to Mr Colin Blau, the Labour candidate, the Prime Minister said yesterday that the overriding issue facing Britain was the need to overcome inflation, and the struggle would mean many harsh and unpopular decisions.

"Had the policies of the Conservatives been adopted, then unemployment today would be several hundred thousand higher. The closure of British Leyland and Chrysler alone, which they advocated by their votes in the House of Commons, would have meant that."

Mr Heath spoke at a public meeting last night at the invitation of Mr Nigel Forman, the Conservative candidate.

Mr Forman said: "He is a friend of mine; I was his external affairs adviser when he was Leader of the Opposition and I did the same job for Mrs Thatcher.

Mr Heath, said that under Labour the British people had seen wage inflation, prices, bankruptcies and unemployment break every postwar record. The low value of the pound demonstrated that clearly.



Mr Thorpe with a coachload of Liberals outside the House of Commons yesterday.

Two years ago Labour's slogan had been "Back to work with Labour." Now it was "Out of work and on the dole with Labour".

Labour's policy towards the unions had been: heads you win, tails we lose. Where sectional interests conflicted it should be the job of any government to stand up for the national interest," but Mr Wilson's Government does not have the guts".

Electors tomorrow will choose an MP for the vacancy left by the elevation of Mr Carr to the peerage.

Candidates: Mr Nigel Forman (C); Mr John Hatherley (L); Mr Colin Blau (Lab); Mr Terence Deville-Faulkner (Nat Front); Mr William Dunmore (Logic Party); Mr Reginald Simmerson (Conservatives against the Common Market); Mr William Boaks (Air, Road, Public Safety, White Residents). Electorate: 66,856.

General election: Mr L. R. Carr (C), 22,538; Mr B. F. Atherton (Lab), 18,840; Mrs H. M. G. Smallbone (L), 8,272; C maj 3,698.

Labour will investigate anti-Prentice voting

By Our Political Staff

The Labour Party national organizer, Mr Reginald Underhill, is to carry out an inquiry into alleged voting irregularities in the Newham North-east constituency Labour Party, which has dismissed its MP, Mr Prentice, Minister for Overseas Development, as a future Labour candidate.

Doubts have been cast over the eligibility of six Socialist Educational Association delegates to the management committee, all of whom were in the anti-Prentice camp when a vote for key posts in the constituency party was taken last month.

Party rules state that affiliated organizations can send one delegate for every 50 members on the local electoral register. This means that the local Socialist Educational Association must have had at least 250 members before it could send six delegates.

There are doubts, however, whether the association has such a membership, particularly as the national Socialist Educational Association became affiliated to the party last year on the basis of 250 members throughout the country. It now claims to have 1,000 members.

Left-wingers belabour Mr Healey over cuts

By Hugh Noyes, Parliamentary Correspondent

Westminster

With Labour leftwingers harrying him at every turn and twist, Mr Healey seemed in the Commons yesterday to be waging a largely private battle with his own backbenchers as he set out, at the start of a two-day debate, to defend the spending cuts in his public expenditure White Paper.

As one Tory MP tried to join the wrangle from the other side of the House, there was a shout from the Labour benches: "You keep out of it." Mr Skinner, Mr Sedgemore, Mr Heffer, Mr Atkinson, Mr Kinnock and others took it in turns to belabour the Chancellor of the Exchequer for betraying the party manifesto and a host of other sacred cows once firmly tethered in the socialist barn.

Mr Healey retorted that general rhetoric and ideological daydreams were no substitute for the hard decisions that had to be taken by a responsible government. So involved did the Chancellor become in defending himself against the Labour militants that the more immediate economic matters of the day, such as the plummeting pound, were totally passed by.

The Chancellor explained that his targets were an unemployment figure of no more than 700,000 by 1979, a growth in the gross domestic product of 5½ per cent over the preceding three years, and a growth in manufacturing output over the same period of 8½ per cent a year.

He said that unless those objectives were achieved there would be less, not more scope for public spending. He assured his angry colleagues that the Government had not abandoned the fundamental principle of the Labour movement that public expenditure should be used to correct inequalities in society and to improve the performance of the economy.

Without the levelling off of public expenditure envisaged in the White Paper, Mr Healey said, it would have been impossible to get the improvement needed in the rest of the economy. If the Government had failed in that there would have had to be even further cuts in the spending programmes.

With many obeisances to Hugh Scanlon and the trade union movement, Mr Healey maintained that, given the state of the difficulties facing the Government, the essential priorities to which the Labour Party had committed itself in opposition had been preserved.

Against the opposition from within, Sir Geoffrey Howe's diatribe from the Tory front bench was a milk and water affair. Sir Geoffrey disliked the Chancellor's style of "aggressive complacency", but he admitted that here and there Mr Healey revealed flashes of a limited awareness of what ought to be done about the nation's troubles.

Our Political Editor writes: Lord Barber, the former Chancellor of the Exchequer, will make his maiden speech in the Lords today during a debate on disincentive taxation to be initiated by Lord Orr-Ewing.

As Mr Anthony Barber has reduced taxation by more than £3,000m a year, and today he will comment on the tax levels in 20 countries he has visited since he left politics and went into the City. He will suggest areas in which Mr Healey could follow his example and cut taxation now.

Lord Amory, another former Chancellor of the Exchequer, is also in a strong list of more than 20 speakers in the debate.

Parliamentary report, page 6

Mr Smith is undecided

Continued from page 1

Meanwhile, Mr Cyril Smith, Liberal MP for Rochdale, who is in hospital, has apparently withdrawn his threat to resign as chief whip, but he added to Mr Thorpe's troubles by stating in a television interview: "I do suspect in fact that at least one individual, and that is not Jeremy Thorpe, knows a lot more about the affair than he's prepared to say or disclose."

Interviewed on independent television's *First Report*, Mr Smith said the person concerned was not an MP, but he was a Liberal. Could he say what position he held in the Liberal Party? The reply was: "No."

Reports that Mr Smith was intending to resign as chief whip produced a flurry of telephone calls early yesterday as Mr Thorpe tried to verify the truth.

"I told him", Mr Smith said in the television interview, "that he could rest assured that if I did decide to resign as the whip he'd be the first to get to know and I certainly had not arrived at any conclusion in that respect."

Parliamentary report, page 6

GLC Labour complaint of 'extremism'

By Our Local Government Correspondent

Two Labour members of the Greater London Council yesterday complained of left-wing extremism in the Greater London Labour Party, and announced that they would not stand in the 1977 GLC elections as Labour candidates.

Dr Stephen Haseler and Mr Douglas Eden, who both resigned from committee posts on the GLC last year, were commenting jointly on the party's annual conference at the weekend. After their resignations, in protest against extreme left policies and poor leadership, both joined the Social Democratic Alliance.

They said that at the conference the militants "rampaged unimpeded", carrying resolutions calling on Labour MPs to vote against the Government's public expenditure proposals and instructing the executive to encourage and assist in the occupation and seizure of workplaces and plant to establish workers' cooperatives.

"In Greater London, as in other metropolitan areas, the unrepresentative left are now poised to exert pressure on elected Labour representatives both in Parliament and on local councils," they said.

They believed that many of their GLC Labour colleagues would not be selected again to fight the 1977 election because they were considered "insufficiently reliable" by those in control of constituency Labour parties.

"This takeover, which will damage the credibility of Labour with its traditional voters in London, has occurred without opposition from those in positions of responsibility."

Man on armed robbery charge

Anthony Cook, aged 29, was remanded in custody until tomorrow week by magistrates at Reigate, Surrey, yesterday, accused of taking part in an armed robbery and resisting arrest with a gun.

Mr Cook, of Branch Hill, Hampstead, London, was charged with robbing Securicor guards of £7,000 in Redhill, Surrey, a fortnight ago and having a .38 revolver with intent to endanger life.

Free seats at theatre urged

Free seats at the new National Theatre on the South Bank are suggested by Mr Horace Cutler, leader of the Conservative opposition on the Greater London Council.

He has proposed to Mr Peter Hall, director of the theatre, that seats should be endowed for those who cannot afford to pay. Mr Cutler has offered to endow the first seat.

Barrister found dead

Miss Jill Bannister, aged 30, a barrister, was found dead yesterday at the home of Mr Robert Flach, aged 54, a deputy circuit judge, in Myddelton Square, Clerkenwell, London. She was found by Mr Flach.

Beside the body were tablets, bottles and a note. The police said foul play had been ruled out.

Ex-councillor speaks of planning applications

Andrew Cunningham, former chairman of Durham County Council, who is accused of corruption, said at Teesside Crown Court at Middlesbrough yesterday that putting through a bad planning application would be as difficult as "the proverbial passing of a camel through the eye of a needle".

Mr Cunningham, aged 65, said that up to 98 per cent of planning applications that were approved had been recommended by the council's planning officer.

Mr Cunningham, of Carrowmore Road, Chester-le-Street, co Durham, is accused with Sidney McCullough, aged 53, a builder of The Broadway, Tynemouth, Tyne and Wear, and three other former Durham county councillors of corruptly conspiring to gain planning favours between 1960 and 1973.

The other three are Robert Urwin, aged 62, of Oxford Close, Birtley, co Durham; Matthew Allon, aged 74, of Willow Close, Washington, Tyne and Wear, and Sidney Docking, aged 65, of Kingsway, Birley. They have all pleaded not guilty.

Mr Cunningham said in evidence yesterday that as soon as he knew Mr McCullough had built nothing for Durham County Council or any subsidiary group at the time he was associated with it.

Replying to his counsel, Mr Timothy West, QC, he said he was serving a five-year prison sentence for accepting £4,000 in benefits and bribes during the activities of Mr Poulson, the architect, in the North-east.

Mr Cunningham said he had pleaded guilty. He added: "I must have been responsible for spending hundreds of millions of pounds o behalf of Durham County Council. I never exercised any influence on behalf of McCullough. He never received any favours from me, not one penny."

The hearing continues today.

Precautions are urged over asbestos

Continued from page 1

to about 120 a year, compared with a total of 200 cases recorded over the 15 years up to 1966. The number is now running at more than 200 a year, but because of difficulties in diagnosis the true incidence may be much higher.

Stringent precautions are taken to keep down the level of dust among workers regularly exposed to asbestos. Because of inadequate standards in the past, hundreds of workers have died and still are dying from asbestosis, scarring of the lungs caused by inhalation of asbestos fibres.

The condition is irreversible, unbreatable, progressive, and often disabling or fatal.

A maximum level of exposure of two fibres a cubic centimetre of air was laid down in the 1969 regulations on the basis of advice from the British Occupational Hygiene Society.

However, doubt has been raised whether that is low enough; the United States Department of Labour has recently proposed a cut in the standard of five fibres to half a fibre a cubic centimetre.

Several retrospective studies have shown that in dusty conditions asbestos workers run greatly increased risk of developing lung cancer and that the dustier the conditions the greater the risk. Cigarette smoking enhances the danger. Abnormally high incidences of cancer of the oesophagus, stomach, colon and rectum have also been discovered.

Dr Irving Selikoff, of New York, a pioneer in asbestos epidemiology, has suggested that asbestos may cause cancers at other sites, including the brain, prancreas, and the genito-urinary area. Asbestos fibres have been found after death in various tissues and organs.

NEW NATIONAL INSURANCE CONTRIBUTIONS FROM 6 APRIL 1976: HOW THEY AFFECT YOU.

National insurance pensions and other benefits were increased in November and contributions are being increased from 6 April for employers, employees, the self-employed and people who pay voluntary contributions. The main contribution changes are summarised below but leaflet NI 208/Apl 76, obtainable from Post Offices and Social Security offices, gives full details.

CLASS 1 CONTRIBUTIONS The standard-rate contribution will be increased by ¼% for both employer and employee. Contributions will be payable by employers at the following percentages for employees earning £13 a week or more on all their earnings up to a new limit of £95 a week.

	EMPLOYER	EMPLOYEE	TOTAL
Standard rate for men and women	8.75%	5.75%	14.5%
Reduced rate for some married women and widows	8.75%	2.0% (unchanged)	10.75%
Retired person's rate	8.75%	Nil	8.75%

THE LOWER EARNINGS LIMIT below which no Class 1 contributions are payable by employer or employee, is being raised to £13 a week.

NEW CONTRIBUTION TABLES are being issued direct to employers and further copies can be obtained from Social Security offices. The tables in leaflet NP15 must not be used for earnings paid on or after 6 April.

CLASS 2 & CLASS 4 CONTRIBUTIONS FOR THE SELF-EMPLOYED

CLASS 2 (FLAT-RATE) CONTRIBUTIONS for men remain unchanged at £2.41 a week. Women's contributions will be increased by 10p to £2.20 a week from the week commencing 11 April as a further stage in the process of raising them to the same level as men's contributions.

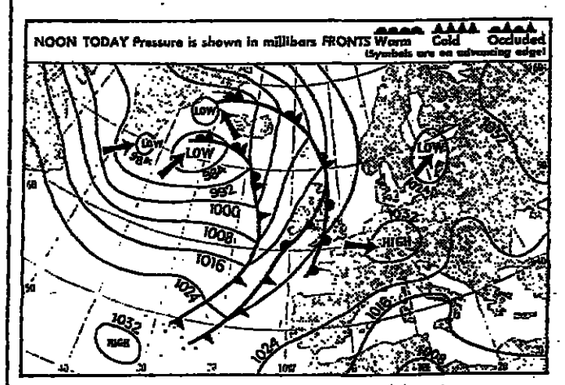
IF YOU EXPECT TO EARN LESS THAN £775 from self-employment in the 1976/77 tax year you can apply for exception from liability to pay Class 2 contributions. This is £100 more than the limit for 1975/76.

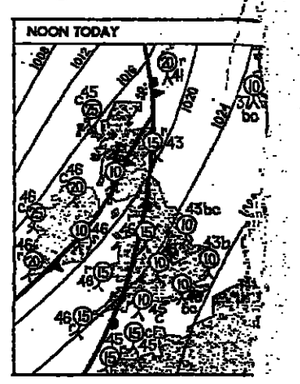
CLASS 4 (EARNINGS-RELATED) CONTRIBUTIONS will continue to be 8% of profits or gains over £1,600 a year but the upper limit for assessment will be raised from £3,600 to £4,900 a year (approximating to the new Class 1 limit of £95 a week) for the 1976/77 tax year.

VOLUNTARY CLASS 3 CONTRIBUTIONS The flat-rate contribution will be raised by 20p to £2.10 a week from 6th April.

Issued by the Department of Health & Social Security

Weather forecast and recordings





Today

Sun rises: 6.26 am Sun sets: 5.57 pm
Moon sets: 2.37 am Moon rises: 11.25 am

Full moon: March 16.
Lighting up: 6.27 pm to 5.54 am.
High water: London Bridge, 7.24 am, 5.6m (18.5ft); 7.52 pm, 5.5m (18.2ft). Avonmouth, 12.42 pm, 9.5m (31.2ft). Dover, 4.51 am, 5.1m (16.8ft); 5.46 pm, 5.0m (16.3ft). Hull, 12.9 pm, 5.5m (18.0ft). Liverpool, 5.1 am, 7.2m (23.5ft); 5.48 pm, 7.1m (23.3ft).

A trough of low pressure will move slowly E over most areas, but pressure will remain high over SE England.

Forecasts for 6 am to midnight:

London, SE, E, central S England, East Anglia, E Midlands: Sunny periods, rather cloudy later, perhaps with rain; wind mainly S, light, after early frost, max temp 8°C (46°F).

Channel Islands, SW England, S Wales: Mostly cloudy, occasional rain or drizzle; wind S, moderate; max temp 9°C (48°F).

N Ireland, N Wales, NW England, Lake District, Isle of Man, SW Scotland, Glasgow: Cloudy with occasional rain or drizzle, sleet or snow on high ground; wind S, fresh or strong; max temp 8°C (46°F).

W Midlands, NE, central N England: Bright intervals at first, becoming cloudy with occasional rain or drizzle, some sleet or snow on high ground, wind S, moderate or fresh, early frost; max temp 7°C (45°F).

Borders, Edinburgh, Dundee, Aberdeen: Mostly cloudy, occasional rain or drizzle, sleet or snow on high ground, wind S, strong; max temp 6°C (43°F).

Outlook for tomorrow and Friday: Changeable, with rain at times and temp near normal, but mainly dry in SE.

Sea passages: S, N Sea, Strait of Dover, English Channel (E): Wind mainly S, fresh or moderate; sea slight.

St George's Channel, Irish Sea: Wind S, fresh or strong; sea moderate or rough.

Yesterday

London: Temp: max 6 am to 6 pm, 8°C (46°F); min 6 pm to 6 am, 2°C (36°F). Humidity, 6 pm, 51 per cent. Rain, 24hr to 6 pm, nil. Sun, 24hr to 6 pm, 3.5hr. Pressure, mean sea level, 6 pm, 1,0[illegible] millibars, rising.

1,000 millibars = 29.53in.

WEATHER REPORTS YESTERDAY MIDDAY: c, cloud; f, fair; s, sun; sl, sleet; sn, snow.

	C	F		C	F		C	F		C	F
Ajaccio	s	19	66	Cardiff	s	9	48	Locarno	s	7	45
Algiers	c	17	63	Cologne	sn	-1	30	London	s	7	45
Amsterdm	f	3	39	Copenhgn	f	-1	30	Luxembrg	s	-1	30
Athens	s	16	61	Dublin	c	7	45	Madrid	s	11	52
Barcelona	c	11	52	Edinburgh	c	7	45	Majorca	f	11	52
Belfast	c	4	39	Funchal	c	17	63	Malaga	s	16	61
Berlin	f	-1	30	Geneva	s	2	36	Malta	c	16	61
Bermuda	c	22	72	Gibraltar	s	16	61	Manchstr	s	5	41
Biarritz	s	6	43	Guernsey	c	9	48	Milaul	f	7	45
Birmnghm	s	5	41	Innsbruck	f	2	36	Montreal	c	-3	27
Bristol	s	7	45	Jersey	s	8	46	Moscow	s	-3	27
Brussels	f	3	37	L. Palmas	f	18	64	Munich	f	0	32
Budapest	sn	0	32	Lisbon	s	14	57	Naples	f	15	59
N York	sn	0	32								
Nice	c	13	55								
Oslo	s	-4	25								
Paris	s	5	41								
Reykjavik	c	1	34								
Rome	c	15	59								
Ronaldsy	c	0	32								
Stockholm	c	-1	30								
Tel Aviv	s	27	81								
Venice	sl	7	45								
Vienna	c	0	32								
Warsaw	s	0	32								
Zurich	s	2	36								

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Austria, Sch 15; Belgium, BFr 25; Canaries, Pes 40; Denmark, Dkr 2.50; Finland, Fmk 2.50; France, Frs 2.50; Germany, Dmk 2.00; Greece, Dr 30; Holland, Dfl 1.75; Italy, Lire 450; Lebanon, Lp 20; Madeira, Esc 15; Malta, 9c; Norway, Kr 4.00; Portugal, Esc 20; Spain, Pes 35; Sweden, Skr 3.75; Switzerland, SFr 2.30; USA and Canada, $1.00; Yugoslavia, Din 25.

هكذا من الاصل

IOME NEWS

'errorists blow up restaurant nd shoot dead owners n Ulster sectarian outrage

m Christopher Walker
ast

wo men were killed and ral people narrowly ped death when masked orists, believed to be alists", attacked one of r's best known restaurants rday and reduced it to a ruin.

e attack took place soon midday when three gun- burst into the Golden sant, a big restaurant near arrison town of Lisburn. bers of the staff preparing unchtime were locked in ne store as the terrorists ted incendiary bombs.

ien the two owners, Mr s O'Reilly and his brother ony, both Roman Catho- were ordered out of the at gunpoint and shots heard from an upstairs . The police said that r charred bodies were dis- red in the rubble of the urant.

ne of the explosions in the aurant loosened the store- n bolt and the staff were to scramble to safety just re the premises were en- ed in flames.

hreats by the previously ited loyalist coalition to monstrate against the con- uation of direct rule from estminster collapsed yester- y as fewer than half the alition's 40 members arrived attend a meeting in a shabby, unheated hall near Stormont.

Originally planned as a defiant attempt to continue the Convention against the wishes of the Government and all the other parties, the gathering ended by providing unmistakable evidence of the splits and confusion inside the coalition about tactics.

At Stormont, extra policemen were ready to prevent an expected attempt to force entry into the locked Convention chamber, but any such plans were dropped; in fact loyalist leaders denied that such a move had even been contemplated.

Dismayed at the turnout, the leadership issued a statement explaining that the meeting was only a committee which would be making recommendations on future action.

The plan to hold the meeting had been criticized by the more moderate members of the Official Unionist Party, many of whom are upset by the efforts of hard-line loyalists to mount extra-parliamentary protests against direct rule.

Earlier, Mr Rees, Secretary of State for Northern Ireland, criticized Mr Ernest Baird, deputy leader of the UUUC who, on Monday, questioned the "honesty, integrity and ability" of the Army after the mortar attack on Aldegrove airport and other recent incidents.

In an interview on the province's BBC channel Mr Rees said: "In the rest of the United Kingdom there will be very great resentment at this man talking in the way he does.

Tighter security sought

By Our Political Staff

Condemnation of almost every important aspect of the Government's policy on Northern Ireland came yesterday from Mr Airey Neave, the Conservative spokesman on the province.

Mr Neave is a less enthusiastic partner in the two-party policy on Northern Ireland than some of his frontbench colleagues. He spoke mildly yesterday to Paddington Young Conservatives, but his strictures indicated unhappiness about recent developments.

"The refusal to have any local representative body to hear grievances and advise the Government will make things more difficult", he said. "There will be rising demands for more seats at Westminster."

The Government also ought to explain what it meant by "positive" instead of "negative" direct rule.

"We take the view that the Government should concentrate all their energies on improving their security policy."

He added: "For the time, everything should take second place to the defeat of terrorism. Without far more resolute military action to restore order, the prospects for future political settlement are very remote."

New methods were needed to punish severely membership of illegal organizations. "It is

Conservatives hail concession on musical education

Choir schools exempted from Bill

By Tim Devlin
Education Correspondent

Choir schools in England and Wales will be allowed to continue to select pupils on their singing ability and will be exempted from the Education Bill, which bans selection and is now going through Parliament.

Mr Fowler, Minister of State for Education and Science, announced that yesterday to the standing committee. Later he confirmed to me that local authorities will be able to take up places at independent choir schools without first getting permission from the Secretary of State.

He said that such selection must be based on singing ability and must not be related to the children's academic abilities. There are 19 preparatory independent choir schools and 17 secondary choir schools, of which two are state schools.

Mr Norman St John-Stevas, opposition spokesman on education and science, hailed the announcement as the first concession the Government had made on the Bill in committee.

Last month he said that the future of many choir schools was threatened by the Bill. He proposed a charter for the schools to put them in the same category as schools for children with music and dancing abilities, which were already exempt.

Mr David Jewell, headmaster of Bristol Cathedral School, said: "This announcement provides a beam of hope. Local authorities who have been uncertain about taking up places at choir schools will now know that they can do so with the Government's blessing."

The announcement will be greeted with relief by many others of the 36 choir schools in England and Wales. Two cathedral choir schools, at Chester and Canterbury, have recently had to close and Westminster Cathedral choir school is in financial difficulties.

The committee stage has now lasted three weeks, with only 15 of the 50 amendments to the Bill's first clause having been debated. The Government is showing signs of impatience.

Mr Fowler announced yesterday that he would introduce a sittings motion on Thursday to extend the twice weekly morning sittings into the afternoons, and if necessary into the night.

A Conservative attempt to allow pupils to leave school before they are 16 to take up apprenticeships and places at colleges of further education was defeated in a standing committee on the School Leaving Bill.

Mr Jenkins, minister with responsibility for the arts, said that such amendments would wreck the underlying principles on which the Government's decision to raise the school leaving age had been based.

Hospital consultant 'unfairly dismissed'

Mrs Castle, Secretary of State for Social Services, has been criticized by an industrial tribunal for not listening to a doctor's appeal.

The tribunal ruled that Dr Matta Guirguis, aged 48, Egyptian-born, was unfairly dismissed from a hospital consultant's job. In a written decision published yesterday, the Tribunal chairman at Birmingham, Mr Nathan Myers, said the Secretary of State's refusal to hear the appeal was astonishing.

Dr Guirguis, he said had been told he had no right of appeal under regulations, but the right had been given by the terms of his employment.

Mr Myers said the West Midland Health Authority, which employed Dr Guirguis as a radiologist at West Bromwich, should read the Code of Industrial Practice.

Dr Guirguis, of Dagger Lane, West Bromwich, was employed as a locum tenens, the tribunal was told. At a public hearing on February 10 the tribunal heard that he had worked for the authority since January, 1971. Last year a full-time consultant radiologist was appointed.

Mr Myers said: "We can find no adequate reason to justify the dismissal of this honourable member of the medical profession."

The tribunal will reconvene to consider compensation.



Police were looking last night for a man who took this 2,000-year-old brass statuette of the god Hermes, valued at £10,000, from the Bruce McAlpine Gallery in Mayfair, London, yesterday. The thief had an American accent and was middle-aged.

Freedom 'a signal for Scottish violence'

From David Leigh
Edinburgh

Armed resistance and political violence would probably characterize independence in Scotland, Professor John Erickson, head of the defence studies unit and Professor of Politics at Edinburgh University, said last night.

Professor Erickson, a defence analyst and adviser to the Royal Navy on methods of protecting oil rigs, crystallized anxieties which several Scottish politicians also express privately about the possibilities of violence and instability inherent in the direction Scottish politics is taking.

The Scottish National Party should concern itself largely with internal security, he said, adding: "The problem would not be to patrol the sea lanes of the North Sea but to keep order in Princes Street or Sauchiehall Street."

The professor, who was delivering a lecture at Edinburgh University on the likely future of Scotland, said that if independence became a likely prospect for Scotland, "disorganized but lethal military organizations would surface and probably survive after independence.

"For example", he said, "an independent government of extreme left persuasion could call forth the reaction of 'the friends of the Scottish individual'". Imagined infractions of any independence agreements might also lead to "an alliance between saboteur and military action groups

Eddie Gallagher calls jail overnor 'sadistic pig'

ldie Gallagher, the former sional IRA man accused of pping Dr Tiede Herrema, Dutch industrialist, yester- r the Special Criminal in Dublin called a prison or a "sadistic little pig". Gallagher, asked if he had estions for Mr Michael an, governor of Limerick said: "Why was it y to have my wife so beaten while she was t that our son was born arms broken?"

cCrann was giving tech- idence to prove that Rose Dugdale, who lived r Gallagher, was in jail time of the kidnapping.

Dugdale's release was ded for the safe return Herrema the court was

rian Coyle, aged 21, also ed over the kidnapping.

said to Mr McCrann: "Why did you allow the police to beat up five women prisoners and slash the face of Rose Dugdale?"

Mr Gallagher then shouted "sadistic little pig" at the governor.

Mr William Reilly, governor of Portlaoise prison, gave evidence to prove that James Hyland and Kevin Mallon, two men whose release was also demanded, were in the jail while Dr Herrema was held captive.

Mr Gallagher asked Mr Reilly why prisoners were punished without first being allowed to see the regulations, or being permitted education and recreation facilities.

Mr Gallagher was again told the points were not relevant. He replied: "You are like Pontius Pilate and wash your hands of it."

The trial continues today.

spension of octor r misconduct

Christopher Calman, aged of Southwark, south on, was suspended from edical register for three s yesterday for serious sional misconduct after ing having sexual inter- e with a girl patient, 18.

disciplinary committee of General Medical Council old that Miss Emma Claire elegge, who had been re- ng psychiatric treatment, n to be treated by Dr Cal- in July, 1974, when she living with her mother and stepfather, Mr Adrian elegge.

hen she moved into a flat another girl, he continued eat her. In March last year telephoned him complain- hat her sleeping pills were ctive. Dr Calman visited taking some pills, and course took place.

he following month Miss elegge was admitted to hos- l, where she was treated rug misuse and depression. ding to Dr Calman, she led on him to give her, operly, supplies of the Tuinal.

ter the young doctor con- ed to the girl's stepfather apologized.

he girl's mother, Mrs Olive elegge, told the committee after the incidents she visi- the doctor at his surgery. macked him hard, as hard ould", she said. "When it doctor who is supposed to oking after your child, you physically sick because you e you can trust these ple."

Calman said he was a part- in general practice, but had notice to leave.

ot 'addicted flying'

chael Devyes, aged 38, an ceur pilot said to be addic- to flying like an alcoholic drink, flew a light aircraft r Waterloo Bridge, London. low over another one so he would lose his licence, istrates at Chislehurst, were told yesterday.

Devyes, a mechanic, of erial Way, Chislehurst, had he could not afford the an hour cost of flying but ld not give it up. He was d a total of £600 on nine monses under the 1974 Air igation Order.

ilding work down

igures from the Department the Environment yesterday ow that the value of all build- work during the fourth arter of 1975 was £2,958m. At nstant (1970) prices, and sea- nally adjusted, the total was own 2.2 per cent on the third arter.

In brief

Plea on supply of papers held over

Wholesale newspaper distributors operating on the fringe of London asked successfully in the High Court yesterday for their application for an injunction against newspaper publishers to be set aside until next Tuesday.

The injunction would seek to make the publishers name people who had been responsible for disrupting newspaper supplies.

TV ban over advertising

The BBC has cancelled its television coverage of the *Daily Mail* Race of Champions at Brands Hatch on Sunday in which one of the cars is due to carry advertising for Durex contraceptives.

The corporation said yesterday that the decision was made "because of the generally unacceptable volume of advertising".

Minister appointed

Miss Margaret Jackson, Labour MP for Lincoln and a Government assistant whip, has been appointed an Under-Secretary of State for Education and Science, succeeding Miss Joan Lestor, who resigned over the projected public expenditure cuts.

Policemen killed

Police Constables J. D. Hunt, aged 31, and D. Tunnicliffe, aged 27, Staffordshire police motor cyclists, were killed yesterday when they were involved in a collision with a car on the edge of Cannock Chase.

Waterways restriction

The British Waterways Board announced yesterday that because of the long, dry spell of weather locks on waterways in England and Wales would be closed at night until further notice.

Boxer divorced

Mark Rowe, aged 28, the former British middleweight boxing champion, was divorced by his wife, Pamela, in the London Divorce Court yesterday on the ground of his unreasonable conduct.

Royal visit delayed

Queen Elizabeth the Queen Mother is postponing her visit to Margate's Royal school for Deaf Children from next Friday to April 2 because of her influenza attack.

Centenary stamps

Four new postage stamps to mark the centenary of Alexander Graham Bell's first telephone call go on sale today. They are priced ~~4½p~~, 10p, 11p and 13p.

GO TO RIO.

Go direct to Rio.
Do not pass Paris.
Do not pay £200 more.

A reminder that the Air France Concorde does not have a monopoly to Rio.

And that you can board a direct British Caledonian flight in time for a three course dinner, after which you can take in a film, rest, and arrive in the relative cool of the morning, relaxed and ready for exactly the same meeting as the Concorde passenger who flew in the evening before, and paid £200 more for the return journey. (That's the Concorde premium – you save well over £500 on a British Caledonian Economy class round trip.)

Days of Operation.	TUES	THURS	SUN
London Airport-Gatwick. Dep.	2000	2000	2000
Rio de Janeiro. Arrive.	0555	0755	0550

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HOME NEWS

Journalists' union an ally in fight to preserve freedom of the press, editor tells commission

By a Staff Reporter

The editors of two national newspapers and Lord Goodman, chairman of the Newspaper Publishers Association, yesterday repeated their absolute opposition to a closed shop for journalists and their apprehensions about the proposed press charter before the Royal Commission on the Press.

But a third editor, Mr Charles Wintour, of the *Evening Standard*, told the commission that he deplored the attitude of editors who saw threats to the freedom of the press where none existed. He believed a reasonable press charter could be produced.

A post-entry closed shop had operated at his newspaper for six years. Occasionally he chafed at the restrictions, particularly on recruitment, but he could not honestly say that press freedom had been imperilled.

Mr Wintour criticized editors who made "the tremendous mistake of seeing the National Union of Journalists as the enemy". It was a potential ally in the fight to preserve press freedom. The union had a first-class record in fighting censorship.

Earlier, Lord Goodman had taken a much gloomier view of the prospects for the freedom of the press in the wake of the Trade Union and Labour Relations (Amendment) Bill. He repeated that the Bill had created "an utterly intolerable situation". He feared that the present proposals could reduce a free press first to total anaemia and finally to total subordination.

He urged the royal commission to recommend that the right to write should not be abridged in any way for industrial reasons. Mr Wintour, on the other hand, told the commission that he saw nothing in the proposed law that threatened the right to write or the more practical right to publish.

Lord Goodman said that he did not agree with Mr William Rees-Mogg, editor of *The Times*, that editors should take no part in negotiations for a press charter as provided for in the Bill. Agreement would not be easy but he at least would try hard.

Questioned about NUJ action in Barnsley, Lord Goodman said it showed how a small and relatively weak organization, given immense new powers, sought to flex its muscles.

Mr M. H. Fisher, editor of the *Financial Times*, told Professor O. R. McGregor, chairman of the commission, that the proposed charter would bring more danger than safety. The best thing to hope for was that no such charter should be written, particularly not one drafted by a minister.

He added that any charter that contained provisions about the content of newspapers would lead to a limitation of their freedom. The power given to Mr Foot, Secretary of State for Employment, to draft his own version if the two sides of the industry failed to agree was incompatible with a free press. "I would not entrust the drafting of such rules to the Archangel Gabriel", he said.

He believed that the power to draft a press charter under the terms of the Bill would give the Government power to direct news in addition to the considerable power of news management it already possessed.

Mr Fisher emphasized that his opposition to a closed shop for journalists did not arise from hostility to unions in general or to the NUJ in particular. He would be content to edit the *Financial Times* if all its journalists were NUJ members, provided that membership was not a condition of entry and that a journalist who left the union did not lose his job.

He understood the NUJ's desire to establish the strongest possible bargaining position, but he did not believe a closed shop was necessary or desirable. He added: "I am not in favour of leaving loaded pistols lying around even if everyone promises never to fire a shot."

Mr Donald Trelford, editor of *The Observer*, said he would enter negotiations for a press charter with considerable pessimism. He would have preferred the amendments to the Bill proposed by Lord Goodman, which were clear and unambiguous, to any press charter, which would be unclear and very ambiguous, as a defence of the freedom of the press.

To take part in negotiations for a charter might imply acceptance of the closed shop principle, so the unwillingness of some editors was understandable. He believed elements within the NUJ were pressing to extend their influence over newspapers, which was, of course, an entirely legitimate aspiration.

Bernard Levin, page 14



Garden-sharing plan: Mrs Maureen Harris (left) and a group of pensioners in a row of almshouses in Wandsworth Road, London, are among the first people to benefit from a "crops and shares" scheme launched yesterday by the Friends of the Earth. The purpose of the scheme is to bring together people who want to grow their own food but have no access to suitable land and others, who find it difficult to cultivate their gardens.
Mrs Harris, a widow, who moved recently from a house in the country with a big garden to one in Wandsworth with only a tiny backyard, has been given the use of the almshouse gardens to grow vegetables in return for a promise to keep the small front gardens in flower. Yesterday she had some help from the Friends (above right). The pensioners are pleased by the agreement because their caretaker-gardener has retired and the gardens were falling into neglect.
The Friends of the Earth say that the desire to grow more food is evident. The allotment waiting list lengthened from about 27,000 in 1973 to about 57,000 in 1974. Garden-sharing schemes have been started by 20 Friends' groups.

Restrictions on Oxford ruling body rejected

From Our Correspondent
Oxford

An attempt to restrict a proposed enlargement of membership of Congregation, the governing body of Oxford University, to graduates "of a recognized university" failed yesterday. But it is expected that a postal vote on the matter will be demanded.

The Hebdomadal Council proposed that "academic-related staff, comprising administrative and library staff and those concerned with research, should be eligible. Dr Maurice Keen, of Balliol, proposed an amendment that only university graduates should be eligible.

The council's proposal, it was said, would dilute the proportion of Congregation's membership which was directly concerned with the primary purpose of the university, teaching and learning, by more than a fifth.

Mr James Campbell, of Worcester College, said it seemed the membership of Congregation was coming to be a matter for competition between unions. "Disputes with unions and between unions have recently occupied much of the university's attention", he said. "The question of membership of Congregation has been involved in these affairs, and if the council gets its way will be increasingly so involved."

Sir Edgar Williams, Warden of Rhodes House, opposing the amendment, which was defeated by 31 votes to 24, said the council's proposal would make about 290 people eligible for Congregation, and increase its membership to 2,330, four hundred fewer than the Regent House of Cambridge.

Printing chief sees a 'crunch' still ahead

By Our Labour Staff

Mr Joe Wade, general secretary of the National Graphical Association, the craft printing union, said yesterday that "the real crunch" had yet to come in the newspaper industry.

He told a conference in London held by The Media Society, that if there was a lesson to be learnt from what had happened in Fleet Street it was the need for early consultation with unions and employees on new technology.

"The real crunch has yet to come, because some newspapers have admitted they are in no position to find the cash for adequate pensions and voluntary redundancy pay on the scale that will be necessary, or, indeed, to finance the new techniques. That is why some of them are playing a waiting game".

He added: "Is it to be expected that the Royal Commission on the Press will recommend, or the Government will agree, that there should be a massive injection of cash into the newspaper industry, even on a loan basis, without some guarantee that the industry is going to succeed in putting its house in order?"

It was amazing, he said, that some Fleet Street newspapers wanted to make the leap from Caxton to computers in one go, without any experience of the new technology. "I am convinced it is not about the new technology itself that there are going to be wide differences of opinion, but about the pace of its introduction.

"There is still time for some Fleet Street newspapers to think about their plans. New technology must be introduced on the basis of existing demarcation lines.

He said earlier in his speech that he had yet to be convinced that "some of the cannibals of Fleet Street" were not going to use the new technology as "some kind of sophisticated weaponry to continue the time-honoured ritual of trying to blow each other out of existence, while Mr Rupert Murdoch sailed on merrily to another fortune on a sea of feminine pulchritude".

Average rate increase put at about 8%

By Our Local Government Correspondent

The latest estimates of rates for next year show that the average increase is likely to be about 8 to 9 per cent. That is the figure the Department of the Environment expects will emerge when returns from local authorities have been put through its computer.

Individual figures will vary a great deal on either side of the average, and water rates are not included in the estimate. If the estimates for non-metropolitan areas are considered, the effect of the water charges will be to put up the average total rates bill by another 6 to 7 per cent.

Other figures released yesterday by the Chartered Institute of Public Finance and Accountancy indicate that local authorities generally will achieve the targets set by the Government. It said last December that "provided authorities plan within the agreed limits for expenditure, the national average increase in rate poundages next paring should be very substantially below that in 1975".

Mr Crosland, Secretary of State for the Environment, has refused to define "substantially below", but he is known to be well pleased with the latest estimates.

The preliminary figures show increases in percentage terms of 4.5 for the London London boroughs, 6.6 for metropolitan districts, nil for non-metropolitan districts, 6.3 for metropolitan counties, 10.1 for non-metropolitan counties and 7.8 for the Greater London Council, including the Inner London Education Authority Precept. Those figures do not include water charges.

Salmon return to the Trent

Salmon are returning to the Trent after being largely absent for 50 years.

The Severn-Trent Water Authorities' independent advisory panel on water quality says many stretches are "heavily polluted but conditions at Cromwell Bridge, Nottingham, are better than at any time since records began 20 years ago. During the past year 14 salmon were caught between Nottingham and Newark.

NUJ support for Barnsley action opposed

By Christopher Thomas
Labour Staff

The executive committee of the National Union of Journalists was asked yesterday to reconsider its support for action taken against non-NUJ journalists in Barnsley, South Yorkshire. It has faced criticism both inside and outside the profession.

The general purposes committee of the union approved a motion to "take note" of the request by Mr Michael Foot, Secretary of State for Employment, for the union to reconsider its policy. The committee invited the executive to think again, although it made no specific recommendation.

It also asked Mr Kenneth Morgan, NUJ general secretary, publicly to reject the campaign mounted against the union "by the enemies of trade unionism within the press", Mr Ronald Knowles, the union's press officer, said.

Barnsley branch of the NUJ has pointed out to local unions and other news sources that some journalists in the area are members of the rival Institute of Journalists, which is not affiliated to the TUC.

Barnsley branch of the National and Local Government Officers Association (Nalgo), has decided not to cooperate with non-NUJ journalists. The decision could particularly affect Mr Clement Newham, one of four IOJ members of the *Barnsley Chronicle*, who specializes in labour and municipal news.

Mr Wilfred Collinson, press officer of Barnsley council, is a member of Nalgo. So are the press and public relations officers at South Yorkshire County Council headquarters in Barnsley.

Mr Eric Barr, secretary of Barnsley branch of the NUJ, said yesterday: "We are very pleased that Nalgo has given its support to us".

Mr Robert Farmer, general secretary of the Institute of Journalists, said in an open letter to Mr Foot: "I am now reliably informed that in some areas local NUJ office-holders are telling public relations practitioners that unless they join the union the material that they submit on behalf of their employers or clients will not be published.

"This must surely be an indisputable example of that denial of access to the press for outside contributors and the public that you said in the House would be a scandal".

Letters, page 15

Eight men and two women in court after raids

After raids coordinated by Scotland Yard's serious crimes squad in various parts of Britain, 10 people, including two women, appeared at Thames Magistrates' Court yesterday to answer various charges, including conspiracy.

Four men, one of them from Bournemouth, appeared separately charged with conspiracy to steal £10,000, and two of them additionally with conspiracy to steal a further £20,000 and £22,000. They were remanded in custody for a week.

The two women and two men from Leicester appeared with two London men on charges including attempting to export 400 £20 bank notes; possessing a revolver; and producing false documents in respect of uncustomed jewelry. Not all face the same charges.

The woman and three of the men were granted bail until March 30 and one man, the husband of one of the women, was remanded in custody until March 17.

'Lobby of peers' opposed to easing sex laws

A strong lobby totally opposed to the liberalization of the law on sexual offences is being built up in the House of Lords, Lord Beaumont said yesterday.

His comments came after the publication yesterday of the National Council for Civil Liberties' report on sex law reform, which has been submitted to the Criminal Law Revision Committee. Among the society's proposals are the lowering of the age of consent from 16 to 14, equal treatment under the law for homosexuals and heterosexuals, and the abolition of the offences of buggery and incest.

Lord Beaumont, who was a member of the Sexual Law Reform Society's working party on sexual offences which recommended almost identical reforms in their report a couple of years ago, said: "There is a large number of very sincere, very Christian peers who genuinely believe that they are fighting against the devil and have organized a strong reactionary lobby".

Miss Patricia Hewitt, general secretary of the NCCL, said they had received a lot of mixed comments on their proposals, ranging from strong support to filthy abuse.

Lord Longford said he felt the report was half-baked, and that anyone who brought forward those kinds of views must be certifiable.

Dr Rhodes Boyson, Conservative MP for Brent, North, said he would press the Home Secretary in the Commons next week to resist the NCCL's proposal to lower the age of consent.

He added: "The real problems of our society are not the restrictions but the massive number of illegitimate births, abortions and the neglect of children which arise from looking at sex purely as a branch of the Olympics, as against a relationship which should only be gone into for the procreation of children through the family framework.

Leading article, page 15

AUEW poll hope for moderates

By Our Labour Staff

Moderate members of the Amalgamated Union of Engineering Workers, Britain's second largest union, are seeking to consolidate their position in elections for key posts which began yesterday.

The elections will decide whether Mr Robert Wright will be able to retain a national post within the union as assistant general secretary. He lost his executive seat to a moderate in October by an unexpectedly high margin in a postal ballot.

His main rival this time, Mr John Weakley, a moderate, sprang to prominence last year when he instigated legal action which resulted in the union reversing its decision to drop postal balloting.

Mr Jimmy Reid is standing for the post of Scottish regional officer.

Voting for 23 posts closes on March 23 and the results will not be known until four to six weeks later.

Opposition to dearer food hysterical, NFU chief says

By Hugh Clayton
Agricultural Correspondent

Opposition to higher food prices in the EEC farm price review amounted to "hysterical overreaction", Sir Henry Plumb, president of the National Farmers' Union, said yesterday. He added that shoppers should think themselves lucky that prices would not rise even more.

He referred after a meeting of the union's council to statements from consumer groups reported in *The Times* yesterday. "One of the principal reasons why farm prices have had to be increased is to offset increased costs brought about by self-generated inflation in the United Kingdom", he said. "Wage and salary earners, who constitute the consumer of this country, cannot expect the price of food to be held when until recently their income were increasing at an annual rate of 30 per cent or more."

Professor Asher Winegarten, deputy director general of the union, asked: "Is it right that the farmer should pay for the national failing of a phoney pound? It is up to the government to decide whether to deal with agriculture on the basis of a real pound or a phoney pound."

The council decided to press for devaluation of the "green pound", the figure by which EEC farm prices are expressed in sterling. Devaluation was sought in the review by the EEC Commission but resisted successfully by Mr Peart, Minister of Agriculture.

London-Paris 'air bridge' in Anglo-French partnership

By Our Air Correspondent

British Airways and Air France are to enter into partnership on the London-Paris air route from April 1 so that during peak periods on weekdays there will be a flight between the capitals every 30 minutes.

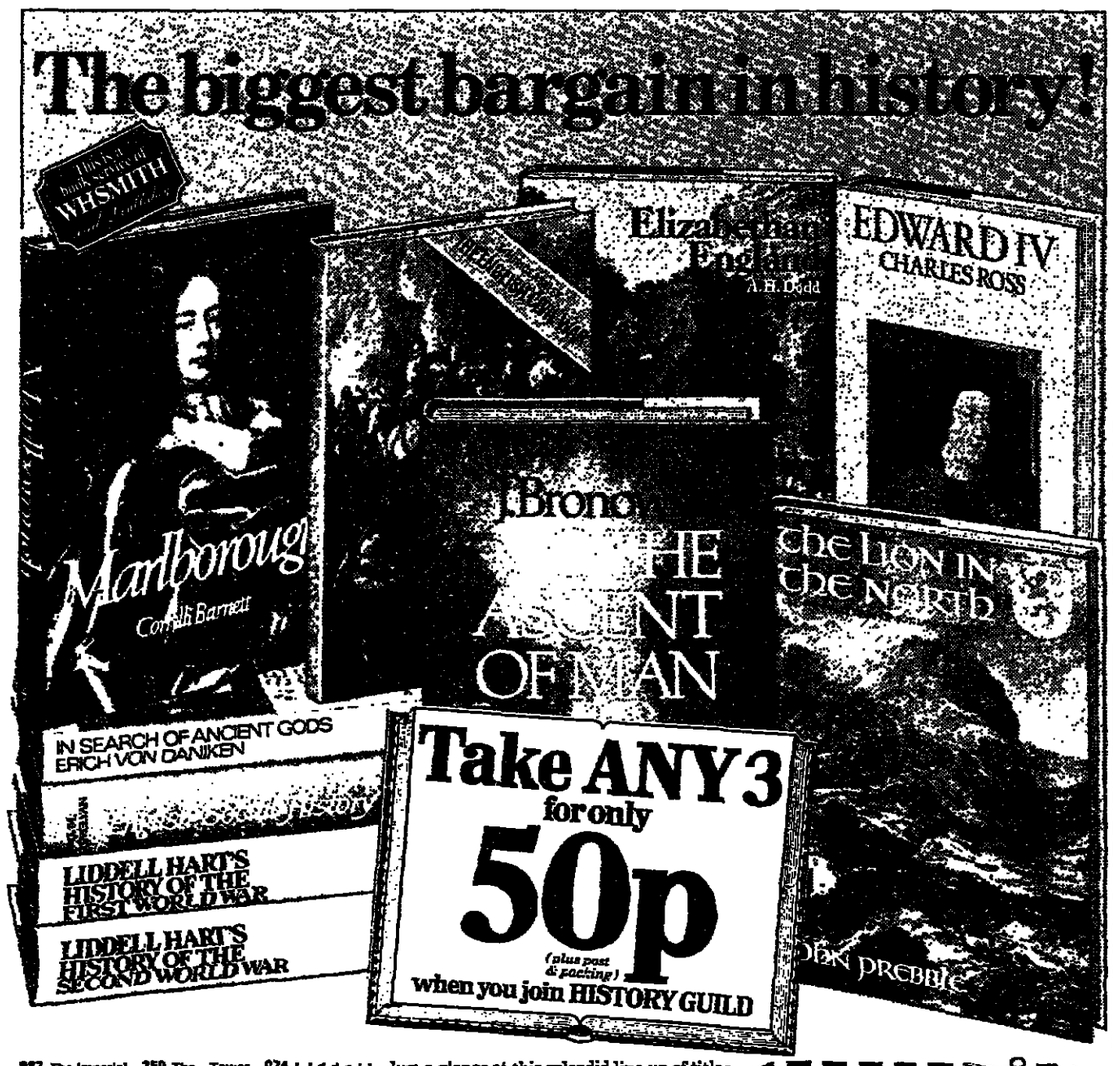
The service has been labelled the "air bridge", and senior executives of the two airlines forecast in London yesterday that during its first year of operation it would carry 1,600,000 passengers. London-Paris is already the busiest international air route in the world.

The next stage will be to convert the service into a shuttle, similar to that which British Airways has operated between London and Glasgow for 15 months, and which it intends to introduce between London and Edinburgh from April 1.

No advance reservations will be necessary, fares will be collected on board, and there will always be a reserve airliner to carry passengers who cannot find room on the main flight.

With 80 per cent of the seats on the air bridge being provided by the British Airways 320-seat Lockheed TriStar and the Air France 248-seat European A300 airbus, there will be little need for advance bookings, the airlines said.

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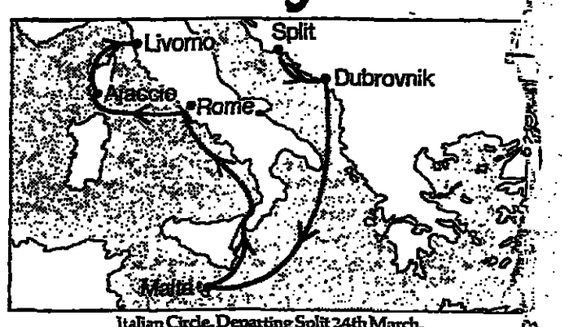
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ncillor sent to jail £2,700 fraud

Kane, aged 29, a gow councillor, was asgow Sheriff Court or six months for ff Charles Johnston s leniency will not be extended again ersons who are like- defraud the public

a city magistrate leader of the con- our group on Glas- ict Council, was by a majority ver- taining £2,700 by Glasgow Corpora- n November, 1972, il.

secution said he money for loss of ile attending coun- s when in fact he rking for the shop- he claimed was his

iff told Mr Kane itizens of Glasgow d to a standard of which the jury have e missing in you". nt was the only penalty for the crime Mr Kane had committed, but in mitigation there was his previous good record and obvious immaturity.

Mr Brian Rooney the shopkeeper, of Laggan Road, Newlands, Glasgow, told the court that Mr Kane worked about three hours a week checking invoices for him. He paid Mr Kane no wages, and merely stamped his insurance card. Mr Kane claimed he had an arrangement with Mr Rooney by which he was paid on average £10 a week.

On the sheriff's direction the jury found Mr Kane not guilty of a similar charge relating to a claim of £9 while he was employed by the Scottish Co-operative Society.

Mr Herbert Kerrigan, for the defence, asked for a fine to be imposed rather than a jail sentence, and added: "I am authorized by my client to say that he will no longer continue to hold any public office."

The defence said later that an appeal would be considered.

Turner will have his own gallery in London

By Philip Howard

J. M. W. Turner, the prince of landscape painters, is to come home to Somerset House after all. A meeting of the magnates of the British art and museum establishment in the Fine Roome of Somerset House yesterday decided in principle that some rooms should house an exhibition of some of the 300 oils and nearly 20,000 watercolours and drawings that Turner left to the nation.

His condition that they be exhibited in rooms of their own to be called Turner's Gallery has been scandalously ignored by a grateful nation in the 125 years since his death.

Yesterday's meeting was organized by the Department of the Environment, which will staff and administer the Turner Gallery, and was presided over by Lady Birk, the Parliamentary Under-Secretary of State.

Somerset House has been the obvious home for such a gallery since the Government departments once known familiarly to Victorians as "the national beehive" moved out and the rooms were restored to their original splendour in 1971. Turner was admitted to the Royal Academy schools here at the age of 14.

He first exhibited at the Royal Academy in Somerset House two years later. Over the next half century until the academy moved out, he made his name in this old home of the academy, which recognized his genius and supported him against many of the arbiters of taste.



Lady Birk with Henry Moore, the sculptor (left) and Sir John Betjeman, the Poet Laureate, at Somerset House.

A working party comprising representatives of the national art galleries, the Royal Academy, and the Turner Society has been set up to report back to Lady Birk in three months on the feasibility of housing Turner's paintings in Somerset House, and the practical measures that need to be taken.

The general sense of the meeting was that the Fine Rooms on the first floor, designed by Sir William Chambers exactly 200 years ago as council rooms for the academy and the learned societies, are too fine to convert into formal galleries devoted exclusively to paintings by Turner.

It would be architecturally philistine to blot out Chambers's ornate moulded panels, wiudows and chimney pieces, *not* to mention Cipriani's paintings on the ceilings. The general opinion was that it wouold be better to furnish the rooms with a permanent exhibition of a few fine paintings from the period of the academy's residence there, fine period furniture, and sculpture, which used to be a particular ornament of these rooms.

Upstairs, the second floor of the Strand block, where the academy used to have its schools of painting, and "the Great Room", where its exhibitions were held, could be restored and converted into galleries for an exhibition of Turners that would be changed and lent periodically.

The Great Room could hold 50 oils, hung in less congestion than in Turner's time, when the walls looked like a crowded stamp album. The anteroom, school of painting, and other side rooms on the second floor would be converted to hold about 200 watercolours, with space to breathe.

Leading article, page 15

Butlins fined £1,940 for 46 hygiene offences

Butlins, the holiday camp company, was fined a total of £1,940 and ordered to pay £400 costs at Chichester Magistrates' Court, Sussex, yesterday for 46 food hygiene offences. The offences were said to relate to conditions at the company's Bognor Regis camp last summer. The company pleaded guilty.

Mr John Smyth, for Arun District Council, said that conditions at the camp were reminiscent of a Victorian workhouse. Crockery and cooking equipment had been found encrusted with stale food and trays of ham and plates of peaches were also encrusted.

Mr Smyth said a tin opener was covered with grease and so putrefied that it had a foul odour. Kitchen walls had pieces of cucumber and tea bags sticking to them, extractor filters and hoods were clogged with grease and there were cracked tiles and concrete, filthy ledges, floors and walls in food preparation rooms.

He said the 46 offences were specimen ones, resulting from five visits to the camp by health inspectors.

The council had received numerous complaints from holidaymakers at the camp. One woman complained of sparrows flying around the dining room, and said she had seen a waiter with dirty trousers feeding the birds in the room.

Mr Smyth said that since 1972 Butlins had refused to heed repeated warnings from the council about hygiene at the camp.

Mr Michael Eastham, QC, for the defence, said it was the first time Butlins had been prosecuted and the offences had to be viewed against 40 years of trouble-free service. New, sophisticated washing-up machines had been ordered for the camp.

Imposing the fines, ranging from £15 to £65, Mr Stanley Roth, chairman, said any company was only as good as its staff. He added: "Looking to the future, we feel that with the high degree of unemployment it may be that Butlins could possibly be a little more selective in the type of people they bring down here to service this camp."

Mr Eastham said some of those who had complained to the council had done so only after publicity, and those who had wanted compensation had been given it. Butlins had received letters from 79 people who had voluntarily written to compliment them on their standards of cleanliness after seeing the publicity.

Butlins said later: "Many of the descriptions of our Bognor Regis holiday centre have been greatly exaggerated. Most of the offences to which we pleaded guilty were of a minor, technical nature.

"At no time has there been any health risk relating to any of the charges on which we have been found guilty. We have cooperated closely with the local health and hygiene officials and following the installation of new washing equipment the council have expressed their satisfaction to us of conditions at Bognor Regis."

scargill es uritism

Correspondent

r Scargill, Yorkshire f the National Union kers, said at Shef- n Court yesterday ever attempted to nyone over the allo- pickers during the s' strike. He was a question from his Michael Kempster, second day of an mages.

gill says he was a newspaper report 1974 miners' strike. eadlined: "Scargill demand by miners" the Sheffield even- per, *The Star*, on 7, 1974. The article t a group of miners for his resignation the way he had "plum picketing

"I did not at any to influence in any llocation of pickers. I ver, even for one considered any branch ield in isolation and ever have considered uch at Wooley. It is e. The basic prin- rade unions clearly you treat all mem- union equally and itism to none." ill has brought the Sheffield Newsishers of *The Star*, ending it. continues today.

'Dangerous ground' on immigration

The case of an illegal immigrant who was twice arrested for failing to leave Britain on time "broke new and dangerous ground", Mr Kenneth Harington, the magistrate, said at Horseferry Road Magistrates' Court, Westminster, yesterday.

"It is a very important point. Anyone dealt with by a court for being an illegal immigrant and who is not recommended for deportation cannot be charged again if he remains here", he said.

He refused to allow the police to proceed against Gihard Nasr, aged 24, a Lebanese student, who had spent a week in Brixton prison on remand. Mr Nasr was discharged.

Miss Allison Ball, for the defence, successfully argued the defence, *autrefois convict*, meaning that a person cannot be charged twice with the same offence.

At Marylebone Magistrates' Court on February 24 Mr Nasr, of Onslow Gardens, South Kensington, was conditionally discharged for the offence under the Immigration Act, 1971, of failing to leave Britain by October 31 last.

He was not recommended for deportation when the magistrates heard he planned to marry, continue to study and stay in Britain indefinitely. He failed to report to the Home Office for an extension of his visa and was rearrested four days later on the same charge.

George-Brown sees hill task ahead

as coasting and it to be "a hell of a o get back uphill, ge-Brown said in erday.' He added: y quarrel with the

former deputy resigned from the week, said at the the Engineering In- sociation exhibition: irly gloomy about of this economic We have left it e and the Govern- ing inadequate steps.

"We will obviously get out of it eventually, but it is going to be a jolly sight more painful than we expect. We will have to face some unpalatable truths before we do."

Lord George-Brown said that if the Government had stuck to the idea of having an economic department at the centre of affairs, Britain would not "have to find £3 billion in interest on borrowings".

Import curbs were not the answer. That would be the shortest way to defeat.

Charing Cross closure

Charing Cross station will be closed on Saturday and Sunday because of engineering work. Caterham and Tattenham Corner trains will run to and from London Bridge. Other services will be diverted to and from Cannon Street.

Corrections

The article "Piping heat from under North Sea" (March 4) should have stated that temperatures below the North Sea reach 160°C; the estimated cost of a first-stage feasibility study is £800,000; and the potential total geothermal resource under the Cornwall region, if surface temperature gradients persist to an appropriate depth, has been estimated at the equivalent of 8,000 million tonnes of coal.

A report on February 28 listing local authorities seeking to reduce costs by ceasing to take up places in non-statutory homes for old people should not have included Dorset County Council.

lized t was officer

Constable Roger said at Gloucester t yesterday that he ealized that a sus- olifter he was ques- one of his senior ief Inspector Ewart d 42.

ey, who is married sons, of Andorra urchdown, near has pleaded not tealing 14 grocery ding steak, corned d onions and sham- the Tesco super- ucester, valued at

Llewellyn said that realized the man's asked: "Are you Bradley, who was faced, had replied: eally", and added: lness is no excuse."

ish regions 'may have ght for their interests'

f Reporter

lish regions might iselves forced to fensively to press omic and political devolution tipped farther in favour d and Wales, Mr azell, chairman of Midlands Economic Council, said

ned Mr Silkin, or Planning and ernment, that a nancial aid "capable nfluenced by noisy even based on past h are now inappro- d be unacceptable such as ours which, e remembered, has n comparable with

the council had ut the reality of upport for even volution for Wales. to the minister he continued: "As matters stand, the Scots in particular appear to have been able to obtain preferential treatment in comparison with other parts of the United Kingdom.

"However much this may in the past have been justified by conditions north of the border, it is not clear to this council that the disparities in public expenditure and industrial assistance as between Scotland and England would be justified by present economic and social conditions."

If the devolution proposals went forward as drafted, some means must be found of determining a block grant for devolved services that would relate it to the real needs of the different parts of the United Kingdom.

Urging a review of regional policy as a whole, Mr Hazell said: "Regional policies still based essentially on the pattern established following the Hunt report in 1969 no longer fit the facts."

Gas

HOW MUCH MONEY IS IT SAVING BRITAIN?

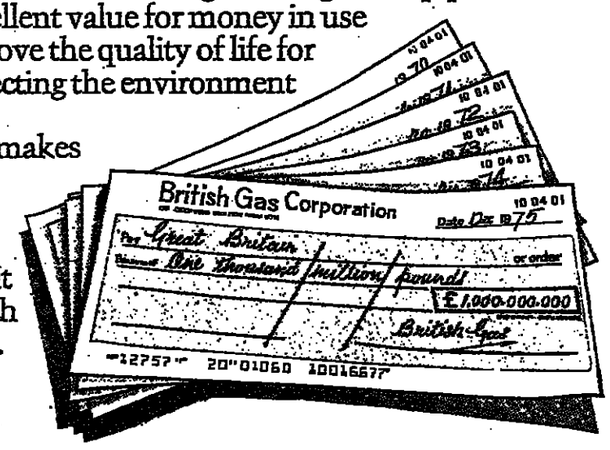
The answer is hundreds of millions of pounds a year on our balance of payments.

So when you remember that natural gas has been coming ashore for some eight years now, the total amount of foreign exchange saved for the country is truly enormous. And more than that, natural gas has also helped Britain to become increasingly independent of other countries for our vital supplies of energy.

And because natural gas is a clean, efficient, primary fuel, efficiently transmitted through underground pipelines, it offers excellent value for money in use and helps to improve the quality of life for everyone by protecting the environment from pollution.

All of which makes natural gas one of Britain's most precious assets.

So please use it carefully—it's much too good to waste.



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2 Turn your thermostat down a degree or two
3 Turn off unnecessary radiators
4 Insulate your roof space and hot water system
5 Have your gas equipment properly maintained and serviced
6 Ask at your local showroom for further information about how to save gas—and save money

SAVE IT

BRITISH GAS

PARLIAMENT, March 9, 1976

South African business money used against Mr Thorpe

House of Commons

Mr James Lamond (Oldham, East, Lab) asked when the Prime Minister next hoped to meet political leaders of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics.

Mr Harold Wilson (Huyton, Lab)—Mr Brezhnev, Mr Kosygin and Mr Gromyko have all accepted in principle invitations to visit this country. The dates for these visits have still to be confirmed, but we hope to announce shortly the timing of Mr Gromyko's visit.

Mr Lamond—Will he use the opportunity at these meetings to carry on the initiative he took almost a year ago to increase friendship and cooperation with the Soviet Union by means of trade? This is much more constructive in building peace than the belligerent speeches we have heard from the Leader of the Opposition and her friends.

Mr Wilson—I have nothing to say about certain speeches. It has been the policy of successive governments to try to build up trade with the Soviet Union ever since the war. We are now beginning to see the results of the agreement of a year ago. Some big contracts with some of our major industries are under discussion.

Mr Christopher Tugendhat (City of London and Westminster, South, C)—One of the West's greatest assets in dealing with the Soviet Union is that we are so much more technologically advanced than they are. Would the Prime Minister make clear to the Russian leaders that deals of the sort he signed are providing our technology on the cheap at subsidized rates and are not compatible with the Russian attitude to détente? (Conservative cheers.)

Mr Wilson—All trade consists of exchanges of technology. We are in strong competition with leading western countries, including France, West Germany and particularly Italy. It is right we should get contracts. If he wanted us to opt out of that trade on the grounds of the philosophy he has enunciated it would mean far fewer chances for this country.

On the question of subsidized rates of interest we have had to follow here the ruling rate set by other countries in western Europe. At Rambouillet we proposed there should be exchanges of views and common policy for these matters.

Mr Eric Heffer (Liverpool, Walton, Lab)—When the Prime Minister meets leaders of the Soviet Communist Party would he explain to them the philosophy of the democratic socialists in this and other countries that we are much opposed to the idea of dissidents being put in prison, that we are against Jews not being allowed to leave the Soviet Union, that we believe that democratic socialism means democracy and that people who have sympathy with the socialist economy of Russia have no sympathy with the political bureaucracy which exists there at present. (Cheers.)

Mr Wilson—I agree. These are points I have put many times to the Soviet leaders, and first put in 1947.

Mr Peter Tapsell (Horncastle, C)—In view of the serious expansion of Soviet imperialism into southern Africa, it would be more appropriate before the Prime Minister meets Mr Brezhnev for him first to fly to Washington and discuss with President Ford the methods by which the western alliance can ensure that the peoples of southern Africa have a right to work out their own destinies without foreign imperialist intervention.

Mr Wilson—The Foreign Secretary and I are in the closest touch with the United States Government and other western governments on these questions. We shall lose no opportunity to make clear to the Soviet Union our views about outside intervention in southern Africa.

Mr Malcolm Rifkind (Edinburgh, Pentlands, C) asked when the Prime Minister next expected to meet the Secretary General of the United Nations.

Mr Wilson—I have met the Secretary General on a number of occasions. I look forward to meeting him in the future whenever this will be beneficial to British and world interests.

Mr Rifkind—If he is not to meet the Secretary General in the near future will he instruct our ambassador to the United Nations to raise with the Security Council the continuing aggression by the Soviet Union and Cuba in the internal affairs of Angola?

We must use all the diplomatic means at our disposal to put the Soviet Union in the dock and brand Mr Brezhnev as the most blatant imperialist in Africa since and including Cecil Rhodes.

Mr Wilson—One of the big problems of Africa is the competing imperialism of the Russians and the Chinese. This has had serious effects in various parts of Africa. We are in close touch with our allies on this question.

If the answer is that this could be best done in the United Nations we shall not hesitate to do so.

Mr James Wellbeloved (Bexley, Erith and Crayford, Lab)—When the Prime Minister meets Dr Waldheim will he raise with him the activities of South African agents in the internal affairs of democratic countries including Britain?

Has he received any evidence about the involvement of South African agents in the framing of leading Liberal Party members?

Mr Wilson—I have no doubt that there is strong South African participation in recent activities relating to the Leader of the Liberal Party (Mr Jeremy Thorpe) based on massive reserves of business money and private agents of various kinds and qualities. I have no evidence that the South African Government or agencies or agents have any connexion with these unsavoury activities.

Mr Richard Luce (Shoreham, C)—Is it not unacceptable to Britain and the West that Russia should preach détente at Helsinki and practise precisely the opposite in southern Africa? If he agrees with that, what is he doing to raise the matter at the United Nations and seek the removal of Soviet troops from southern Africa?

Mr Wilson—If and when we believe the right approach is by raising it or helping others to raise it in the United Nations we shall do so. We do not believe that moment has come. Our views will be made clear to the Soviet Union before and during Mr Gromyko's visit.

Mr Frank Hooley (Sheffield, Heeley, Lab)—The United Kingdom is totally opposed to racism in southern Africa whether it is Rhodesia, Namibia or South Africa itself. Can the Prime Minister indicate how the British Government proposes to take the initiative within the United Nations to put an end to this situation?

Mr Wilson—Yes, we have made this clear on a number of occasions with regard to all these countries and of course the United Nations itself went on record on our initiative on the matter of sanctions against Rhodesia as long ago as 1965.

Mr John Pardoe (Cornwall, North, L)—The Prime Minister is obviously aware he has made an extremely important and serious statement in answer to a previous question about South African security forces.

In view of the serious nature of the suggestion that the South African Government are involved in affairs of this country to do with politicians, perhaps of all parties, what action does he propose to take?

Mr Wilson—I did not say security forces. I said there was no evidence of South African Government participation in this matter. I referred to some very strong and heavily financed master-minding of certain political operations. Anyone in this House concerned with democracy will feel revolted with the fact that we are going to have to face this sort of thing in so far as the leaders of any party or of all parties are concerned. I can find no evidence about the South African Government.

With regard to the South African Government I answered a written question which he may not have seen because he has been very busy of late. But that answer said in respect of questions about South African agency participation in relation to certain African organizations who have offices here that police inquiries are continuing and if anything comes out of them requiring action we will take whatever action is appropriate.

Estimate of Russian arms costs too low

Russian defence spending had been underestimated and had been increasing noticeably in the last three years, Mr Roy Mason, Secretary of State for Defence, said during questions on defence spending.

Mr James Lamond (Oldham, East, Lab) had asked what proportion of United Kingdom gross domestic product was to be spent on defence in 1975-76.

Mr Mason—The share of the gross national product was estimated at about 5.75 per cent in last year's White Paper. The share of the gross domestic product at factor cost would be about the same.

Mr Lamond—Why is it, if there is to be a defence spending reduction, that the White Paper shows that this year we will spend £4,538m on defence and, in 1979-80, £4,541m, a £3m increase?

Mr Mason—On programmed expenditure in those years to 1979-80 we will be saving £2,800m on defence.

During further questions, Mr Mason said—In the next five years it is likely we shall still be spending, on the Nato yardstick, more than our major European allies. Thereafter it could be less.

On Russian defence spending, it has been established by researchers and analysts in the United Kingdom and the United States that we have certainly underestimated the amount of money the Russians have been spending on defence and it has been increasing noticeably in the last three years.

Security of realm not jeopardized by cuts in defence spending

Mr Robert Banks (Harrogate, C) asked why the Secretary of State for Defence now proposed to cut defence expenditure for the third time in a year, having initially carried out the most extensive and thorough review of the United Kingdom system of defence ever undertaken in peacetime.

Mr Roy Mason (Barnsley, Lab)—It has been necessary for defence to play its part in reducing public expenditure to help the economy.

Mr Banks—It is time that he came clean and admitted that this country's defence and safety were being sacrificed for nationalization and reckless Government expenditure at a time when Soviet forces are increasing. (Conservative cheers.)

Mr Mason—I know his interest in defence, but he will have to make his position clear soon. I notice that the Leader of the Opposition takes the view that they want further cuts beyond those announced in defence expenditure, the imperialistic gladiators below the gangway want more spent on defence and the Bow Group now are demanding the cancellation of through-deck cruisers, the MRCA and cuts in the British Army of the Rhine. The Tories seem to be split three ways.

Mr James Lamond (Oldham, East, Lab)—How can it be claimed that there are any cuts in defence expenditure when the White Paper says in real terms we will be spending more in 1979-80 than we are now.

Mr Mason—He is wrong. He has misread the public expenditure White Paper and when the defence White Paper comes out on March 17 he will see how wrong he is. We are making real cuts in defence expenditure.

Mr Patrick Mayhew (Royal Tunbridge Wells, C)—The Minister of State said 14 months ago that ring off of Government's proposals th envisaged represented a judgment, cool considered, of what we needed spend to ensure our own secur Does he now say that judgm was insufficiently cool or in ciently considered or does he ... ciently frank?

Mr Mason—I always agreed ... once we had reduced our overs commitments and we had lesse to our garrison in Hongkong, ... drawn from Singapore. Gan Mauritius, there would be the p sibility of further pruning in s port at home. That is what we ... been able to do.

Mr Arthur Lewis (Newham, North-West, Lab)—If we do ... read reports that almost ev department is getting its estimation figures wrong, all of their es mates and forecasts wrong, can take any cognisance of any of the figures, because we will be ... they are all wrong?

Mr Mason—If he takes time read the public expenditure ... figures he will be able to estimate whether we are wrong. If he reashes the tables in the public expendit survey he will see that defence coming down from £4,566m in ... to £4,530m in 1979-80.

Mr Julian Amery (Brighton, Pavilion, C)—A Government ... cuts defence expenditure at home, and pays out money to the Govern ment of Mozambique, which ... appears to be threatening Brit territory, is making a pretty pa able impression of Ethelred ... Unready paying out Danegeld.

Mr Mason—I am sorry Mr Amery has got on to his old ... horse again. The matter of aid to Mozambique is not my responsibility. My responsibility is that the defence and security of the realm I am satisfied I have not jeopardized that.

Chancellor sets target for growth rates needed to reduce unemployment to 700,000 in 1979

Mr Denis Healey, Chancellor of the Exchequer (Leeds, East, Lab), opening a two-day debate on public expenditure, moved that the House reject the demand for massive and immediate cuts in public expenditure, which would increase both unemployment and the cost of living, and recognized the need to ensure that manufacturing industry could take full advantage of the upturn in world trade by levelling off total public expenditure from April, 1977, while keeping under continuous review the priority between programmes.

My purpose (he said) is to explain why the Government have decided that public spending should mark time for several years after next April, what this implies in levelling off our programmes: how the Government propose to ensure that the spending outlined in the White Paper is not exceeded in practice; and why we reject the criticism levelled at these plans by the Conservatives and by some Labour MPs.

There could have been few, if any, White Papers on public spending in the past which had united political extremists to such an extent as the present one. It had even reached a point where *The Daily Telegraph* had given hospitality, if not sanctuary, to Mr Norman Atkinson (Haringey, Tottenham, Lab) who wrote an article on behalf of the Tribune Group.

The reason for the levelling off in public spending was because of the Government's basic objective in their economic strategy for Britain to move into the period of world recovery with the highest possible level of employment and a steadily increasing level of exports, and with manufacturing industry steadily absorbing a greater proportion of the country's resources and manpower.

If we have to reduce unemployment (he continued) to 700,000 in 1979, and certainly nothing less ambitious should be our objective, then our gross domestic product must grow at an average rate of 5.5 per cent over the preceding three years and manufacturing output must grow at an average rate of 8.5 per cent a year over the same period.

Britain must seek to achieve what its main competitors in France, Germany and Japan had already achieved.

The higher rates of manufacturing investment in those countries were accompanied by an increase in manufacturing employment of 11 per cent in France, 31 per cent in Germany and 155 per cent in Japan, while manufacturing employment in Britain had fallen 13 per cent.

It would not be easy to reverse a trend which went back at least to the end of the last war. What other countries had done, Britain could do, but only if it was ensured that once recovery got under way the major part of the increase in the wealth so generated went into manufacturing industry, particularly into exports and investment.

No government could give a firm guarantee that those targets would be achieved, but if they were not, then there would be less, not more, scope for public spending. Given the prime need to base Britain's recovery on exports and investment, the public spending envisaged a year ago and the necessary restraint on private consumption, would have required tax increases equivalent to 5p in the pound more on the basic rate of income tax than was now needed.

I do not believe it would be possible (he continued) to count on the necessary moderation in wage claims or the effort in industry if the average man and woman were losing well over 50p in every extra pound they earned in tax and national insurance contributions.

The agreement of the trade unions to the £6 pay limit last summer had transformed Britain's economic prospects in every way.

The steady fall in the inflation rate, which the TUC recognized must continue, would bring immeasurable benefits, but there would be one disadvantage in relation to public spending.

When inflation was rising at the rate it was last year and real interest rates were negative, the burden of servicing Government borrowing was reduced. When inflation, however, was falling, as it now was, then the real burden of debt interest was substantially increased. Because of that, the burden of debt interest was likely to be about £3,000m higher in 1978-79 than was envisaged a year ago for that period.

Of the debt interest paid at home, much would be returned in tax. The interest payments which went to institutions was added to their resources, some of which might be invested in industry. On the other hand about one-seventh of the debt was held abroad and the interest payable on that must be regarded as a claim on real resources.

The new consultative council, which enabled local and central government to discuss spending programmes throughout the year, had already proved its worth in local authority spending, which was an area in the past most liable to escape control. This year local councils were demanding exceptionally low rate increases.

Most important of all, the Government were going to introduce cash limits to cover a wide range of public spending. About three-quarters of central government votes expenditure, excluding social security benefits, would be covered. The rate support grant would also be included in it.

Cash controls would also apply to most local authority capital expenditure. The only important exception to cash limits in central government spending were items such as social security where the amount of money spent would depend on circumstances outside the Government's immediate control.

Too often in the past governments faced with this problem had simply made equal percentage cuts in all programmes across the board. This Government acted differently. They agreed at Chequers that the regeneration of British industry should be their first priority. This commitment had been endorsed unanimously by the Labour Party Conference three months earlier.

He did not claim that the priorities the Government had chosen were perfect in every respect. They would listen to any constructive advice on priorities they were offered either in the House or outside, but given the scale of the problems they faced they had preserved the essential priorities to which they committed themselves in October, 1974.

Mr Scanlon had been quoted as saying in Glasgow only last Friday: "We support the Government completely and absolutely in its general strategy. We are not against the cuts in principle but against the cuts in certain directions: for example, education and some of the social services."

In using those words Mr Scanlon spoke not only for himself and the great trade union he represented but also for most working men and women who turned out in numbers unprecedented at a by-election to support the Labour Government in Coventry last Thursday. (Labour cheers.)

In the light of the vote of confidence the Government had just received, not only in Coventry but at so many party and trade union meetings up and down the country, he found it difficult to understand a Labour backbench amendment which called on the Government to restore spending programmes.

The amendment made a great deal of the TUC economic review, which pointed out that much of the press comment on the White Paper misrepresented the Government's proposals which generally meant a scaling down of hopes for the future as opposed to cuts.

The review fully accepted the need to give priority to extra resources for manufacturing industry. It was not without criticism and expressed concern at certain specific programme cuts.

That amendment, like the Conservative amendment, claimed that the White Paper would increase unemployment, but the White Paper envisaged no reduction in public service manpower as a whole, simply a levelling off, although there might be a small reduction in the size of the Civil Service. He did not believe that the Commons or the country would feel that the levelling off of public service manpower was unreasonable.

Local authority manpower increased by over a million between 1959 and 1974, but manufacturing employment fell. It was in nobody's interest that that steady transfer from manufacturing into service industries, both public and private, should continue.

He understood the genuine concern of some Labour MPs that the Government might have abandoned the fundamental principle of the Labour movement, that public expenditure should be used to correct inequalities in society and to improve the performance of the economy. The Government had not abandoned that principle.

We must make room in the next few years (he said) for a big shift of resources into manufacturing industry or our relative economic performance is bound to decline still further, as it has declined under successive governments over the past 30 years.

Mrs Thatcher, the Leader of the Opposition, in line with the cautious, rather cack-handed opportunism which had characterized her behaviour in recent weeks, had provided an amendment giving little clue to what she thought the Government should have done. Under the Tories public spending programmes, including the contingency reserve and shortfall, rose on average by 4.3 per cent a year throughout their last three years.

In Labour's first three years the average was 4.1 per cent. If debt interest was included the picture was reversed, but this Government, unlike their predecessors, had not financed spending simply by printing money.

The price of the monetary profligacy through which the Tories financed their massive spending programmes (he said) is still being felt in our high inflation rate.

The really big spenders in the last Tory Government, apart from Mr Peter Walker (Worcester), now ranging hungrily in the wilderness, were Mrs Thatcher and her Rasputin, Sir Keith Joseph (Leeds, North-East). (Laughter). Apart from their increased spending in office Sir Keith had introduced the NHS reorganization, causing a bureaucratic nightmare.

For a group of ex-ministers, with the record of the Tory front bench, to lecture the Government on control and planning of public spending required either a collapse of memory or an impudence which beggared description.

The cost of carrying out Tory commitments in their election manifesto in October 1974, including tax credits, building society mortgage interest, student grants and pensions would have been over £3 billion. Yet even when the election was over they continued to ask for more public spending. They even wanted to spend £373m on the Channel tunnel.

Labour was supposed to believe the Tories had seen the error of their ways. They wanted massive and immediate public spending cuts, with special emphasis on subsidies. The results would be not only massive and immediate increases in unemployment but an enormous and immediate increase in the cost of living.

If they abolished subsidies on housing, food and the nationalized industries it would raise the retail price index immediately by about 5 per cent, without abolition of tax relief on mortgage interest.

The cuts proposed by the Bow Group would amount to £12 billion. They would cut defence expenditure by £400m by transferring certain functions to the private sector.

I suppose (he said) the British contribution to Nato would be provided by Securicor. (Laughter.)

It was no good the Opposition attacking the proposals in the White Paper unless they were prepared to state precisely how they would deal with the problems it was intended to solve. General rhetoric and ideological daydreams were no substitute for the hard decisions a responsible Government must make. The Government had taken the necessary decisions and had preserved the priorities on which they fought and won the last election.

They had structured and phased the levelling off in their expenditure programmes so they would not cut jobs or increase the cost of living at a time when the fight against inflation and unemployment was at its height.

Liberal MP calls for much higher levels of private sector profitability

Mr Sydney Irving (Dartford, Lab), continuing the debate, said that the first priority was the country's recovery and the establishment of a prosperous, expanding economy and an end to unemployment. The Chancellor would not be forgiven by the people for a failure to secure economic recovery.

There was, not without some justification, a question about the capacity of Government, which would make Government more difficult because of growing scepticism about its competence. From that feeling many of the present problems arose, including that of devolution. It was becoming increasingly difficult for ordinary people to understand how miscalculations could be made in various parts of the economy without any heads rolling.

Mr Peter Hordern (Horsham and Crawley, C) said there appeared to be only one fact in the White Paper, and that was the degree to which public spending would rise in the coming year—by £1,600m. If public spending turned out higher than forecast and the growth of the economy much lower, either debt interest or taxation—probably both—would have to rise considerably.

Mr Brian Sedgemore (Luton, West, Lab) said if the White Paper was the best that the House of Commons could do, then MPs were not worthy of the electorate they purported to represent or to lead.

A docile Cabinet had allowed the Treasury to become the ruling oligarchy. Was it now, for the Labour Party, the crime to end all crimes for them to tell the public that they could have more schools and hospitals but that it might mean there would have to be increases in taxation, and might in the future involve the Government saying that the man on average earnings had to pay more tax, whether through VAT, increases in tax on alcohol or tobacco, or through direct taxation?

Mr Nigel Lawson (Blaby, C), said that the imperative need to cut back on public expenditure was accepted on all sides of the House, with the single exception of the oriental wing, or the east end, of the Labour Party. It was not always so.

I have sometimes felt (he said) that the only difference between the so-called extremists and so-called moderates in the Labour Party was that the extremists wanted the millenium tomorrow while the moderates wanted it deferred until their children had completed their private education.

Mr David Marquand (Ashfield, Lab) said that although he supported the economic arithmetic of the White Paper he could not accept the relative priorities given to education and expenditure on aid to industry within the White Paper.

He joined the Labour Party because he detested the class system. Could anyone deny that one of the central causes of the class system was educational inequality? There was no chance of the policies on comprehensive schools—which he supported—succeeding without considerably improving standards in the schools. The Government were making a bad decision in spending as much as they were planning to spend on increasing aid to industry.

Mr John Pardoe (North Cornwall, L) said the atmosphere in industry was not conducive to an investment boom. The trend of profitability over the years would make anyone with any money to invest gloomy about the prospects.

A commitment was needed to much higher levels of profitability in the private sector and that was impossible with the present climate of opinion about profit. In countries like France and Germany where the rate of investment was higher there were far better schemes than in Britain for sharing the profits around.

For the Opposition, with the present information available to them and the present outlook for the economy, to say that the Government were in some way going to reduce the living standards of the British people was grossly hypocritical. The British people must get used to the idea that their living standards would fall for a long time to come, whether the government was Conservative or Labour.

Miss Joan Lestor (Eton and Slough, Lab) said that to say that cuts were not taking place was ridiculous. Every local authority knew that they were. It was something which the Government had to come clean about. She could not possibly stand up and say: "Cuts are not happening. You are imagining it."

The only way to get adequate nursery provision was to lower the school starting age to four and make the necessary financial arrangements with local authorities so that they were compelled to provide nursery education for all children who wanted it.

When Labour wrote its manifesto it made certain commitments on education. Many were directed towards the areas of social disadvantage. These cuts were now biting into the opportunities for those children whose parents looked to MPs in the Labour movement to articulate their needs and march their aspirations.

Mr Eric Heffer (Liverpool, Walton, Lab) said he was not an economic genius but he did know that the projected cuts would affect the people he represented. There would be tremendous price increases with the phasing out of food subsidies on top of the arrangements just reached with the Common Market.

The Opposition were being hypocritical in putting forward an amendment criticizing the Government for putting extra burdens on the shoulders of the people. They were at the same time demanding further cuts which would put much more on the shoulders of the people.

That is why (he said) I for one would never vote in the same lobby with them. But the Government must not rely on the fact that I and my colleagues will be voting with them. It might not be a bad thing if the Government do lose the vote on this Government White Paper and then they will have to come back again with further projections on this, but we will see.

Mr Ian Gow (Eastbourne, C) said that a major factor in the country's economic decline had been the virtually uncontrolled growth in public expenditure, and the extraordinary truth about that growth was that it had not been matched by public satisfaction with some of the key areas of public expenditure. There were long waiting lists for houses, interminable waiting lists for entry into hospitals and schools and the education system did not meet the needs and expectations of the people.

Plans to share hydrocarbon resources being studied

House of Lords

The results of the Law of the Sea Conference starting in New York next week would be more important for Britain than for any other country, Lord Campbell of Croy, for the Opposition, said when he initiated a debate on Britain's aims at the conference.

He said that Britain was a fishing nation with special and urgent problems, as well as being a leading shipping nation with a large proportion of overseas trade. Freedom of passage for British vessels in all parts of the globe was crucial.

Britain's continental shelf was extensive in relation to land area, and as they had to import large quantities of metals and ores, it was in their interests to open up alternative sources on the ocean's floors.

The maritime nations were in a minority among the participants at the conference, and the world's fishing, shipping and industrialized countries could be out-voted by the rest.

The 200-mile exclusive economic zone, in which the coastal state was responsible for conservation arrangements, was agreed in principle by the majority at the conference.

Lord Goronwy-Roberts, Minister of State for Foreign and Commonwealth Affairs, said the principal object of the Government at the next session of the Law of the Sea Conference would be to continue to work for widespread agreement on a convention which would be generally acceptable to all states.

It was the Government's object to ensure Britain's jurisdiction over the resources of its continental shelf, particularly oil and gas, and also as far as the territorial edge of the continental margin. At least a third of the states of the conference had a similar objective.

Not all states shared this objective and to assist this objective Government were considering possible schemes for sharing with international community a proportion of the revenue derived from the exploitation of the hydrocarbon resources which lay between the 200-mile limit and the continental edge of the margin. The Government could not consider any revenue sharing within the 200-mile limit.

The Government supported proposals for a 200-mile economic zone. The fisheries regime to be within the United Kingdom zone in relation to EEC members would depend on what emerged from discussions taking place in Brussels on the modification of the common fisheries policy.

While there were issues on which the Government could not countenance they would actively pursue consensus in New York based on a package of agreements on individual issues to form the framework of a new law of the sea convention which would be respected and observed.

There were so many complicated and difficult questions that progress must necessarily be gradual. These questions would not be settled at the fourth session taking place between March 15 and May 4. There might be another session this year. Finally, back in Caracas, there might be a convention session at which a convention would be accepted.

The Trade Union and Labour Relations (Amendment) Bill was read the third time and passed.

The Prevention of Terrorism (Temporary Provisions) Bill passed the report stage.

The Post Office (Banking Services) Bill, which has passed the Commons, was read a second time.

House adjourned, 5.44 pm.

Councillors' allowances

Mr John Farr (Harborough, C) was given leave to introduce the Local Government Act, 1972 (Amendment) Bill.

He said it sought to abolish the payment of attendance allowances and to provide that no payments from public money for any reason would be payable to councillors because they participated in meetings of a party political nature which were not meetings of a council or committee.

The Bill would compensate councillors for the loss of money in the cost of postage, telephones, fares, etc which they incurred in doing their job. He was seeking to establish a "councillor's honorarium" paid annually, tax free, to all councillors at the rate of £3 a 100 electors, with a minimum payment of £50 a year and a maximum of £300.

The Bill would result in an annual saving to the public purse in England and Wales of about £5m.

The Bill was read a first time.

President reelected with all-group support

European Parliament
Strasbourg

M Georges Spenale (France, Soc), former chairman of the socialist group, was by acclamation unanimously reelected president of the Parliament. He had the support of all six of the Parliament's political groups.

The reelection ceremony was presided over by **M Roger Houdet** (France, L), the European Parliament's equivalent of the "father of the House", being the most senior member by age. He is the sole remaining member of the Parliament born in the last century.

M Houdet, before putting the motion to reelect M Spenale, paid tribute to the work of the President in all the discussions there had been on direct elections, and particularly for his defence of the role of the Parliament.

He said the debate on direct elections by universal suffrage was open. Although the principle was recognized, ways and means of carrying out the elections and the role of the European Parliament were being discussed. This year, the Assembly, as a result of the Patijn Report which had been adopted, should consider the links that should be set up after 1978 between the European Parliament and national parliaments.

This raised the problem of the dual mandate. Without a national mandate, would they be cut off from the events that transpired in the national parliaments, or would the dual mandate affect the freedom of judgment of the European Parliament?

The link between the parliaments was important. Some people thought national parliaments should not be called upon to play other than a marginal role in European affairs.

Let us (he said) not make that mistake. National parliaments will continue to play a major role in European affairs.

They must ensure full liaison and cooperation. The legislative assemblies of Europe must not be rivals but must work together to find ways and means of consolidating the democratic dimension in Europe.

M Spenale, acknowledging his reelection, said they were going through difficult times. Inflation had not been controlled and there were all the implications of fluctuations in currency parities. The world was restless.

The year ahead would be important. Parliament would have to insist upon the ratification of a new agreement concerning its budgetary powers. There would have to be proposals for even closer involvement of Parliament in the law-making process. There would also have to be a common basis of assessment for VAT.

The consultative assembly, under the Lome Convention, would be set up in Luxembourg on May 31.

They should do all they could to make sure that direct elections took place within the time limits laid down. It would be a decisive step towards European unity. It would also mean redressing the balance between the institutions of the Community, especially since the establishment of a more formal European Council of Ministers which was giving extra political power to the executive.

They must beware of confusing the issue of direct elections and the proposals in the Tindemans report. The year 1976 should mark the initial agreement on direct elections; 1977 should see the adoption by member states of the necessary measures for implementing them, and the elections should be held in 1978.

The following in order of precedence, were elected vice-presidents of the parliament: Signor Giovanni Bersani (Italy, CD), Mr Cornelius Berkhouwer (Netherlands, L), The Earl of Bessborough (United Kingdom, C), Mr Michael Yeats (Ireland, DEP), Mr Gerard Bordu (France, Comm), Herr Walter Behrendt (Germany, Soc), Herr Hans-August Lucker (Germany, C-D), Mr Ove Guldberg (Denmark, L), Mr Lucien Martens (Belgium, C-D), Signor Achille Corona (Italy, Soc), Mr Jacques Santer (Luxembourg, C-D), and Sir Geoffrey de Freitas (UK, Kettering, Lab).

Prospect of further increase in tax burden

Sir Geoffrey Howe, Opposition spokesman on Treasury and economic affairs (East Surrey, C) moved an Opposition amendment asking the House to decline to approve a White Paper which would lead "only to lower living standards, fewer jobs and higher taxes".

He said the Chancellor had made a wholly characteristic speech, dominated by blustering misrepresentation of his political opponents on their past record and present intentions. He occasionally revealed a degree of insight into the nation's problems and hinted awareness of what ought to be done about them.

The time was long past when he could keep going back to the actions of the previous Government to provide alibis for his present failure. It was high time the Chancellor was man enough to accept his own responsibilities for the present state of the economy. (Conservative cheers.)

Conservative governments had held public spending as a percentage of gross domestic product at a steady rate. But Mr Healey had fallen in line with his Labour predecessors from the time of Mr Attlee's Government. Under Mr Healey it had grown from 50 per cent to 60 per cent. It was time Mr Healey accepted his responsibility for that and ceased to lay the blame where it could not be properly laid.

Mr Healey had misrepresented Conservative spending programmes. They knew how to raise the money, but the Labour Party had deceived the nation by saying it had costed out its manifesto programme and the money was available to carry it out. He deceived himself about the past and the future and on the adequacy of the White Paper as a plan for restoring the health of the economy.

The massive expansion of public spending had caused Britain's present problems. The reason was purely economic. Mr Healey was being confronted by the conflict of economic realities and the political fraudulence with which his party had fought election after election.

The tax burden resulting from increased public spending had become crippling. The burden of debt had risen because of the failure to control public sector borrowing and failure to estimate the true cost of interest that had to be paid for it. The Chancellor was consuming today what their children and grandchildren would have to pay for in the years ahead.

The proposed cuts in spending would only go part way to repaying the additional debt burdens which Mr Healey had incurred. He was running risks of future inflation and was placing the freedom of people in danger. Every time the Chancellor took another slice of money out of the average wage earner's packet he took another slice of freedom out of it.

He congratulated the Chancellor on having understood and accepted so much of the analysis which the Opposition had been offering him. Unfortunately the conversion was apparently only skin deep. The message of the White Paper was that, having understood precisely what the Opposition said was wrong, the Chancellor and his colleagues proposed to do nothing about it.

Even if the Chancellor knew what to do, and perhaps he did, even if he wanted to do it, and perhaps he did, he would not be allowed to do it by his deeply-divided party, of which some members made clear they were anxious to take the British people still farther along the road which had brought such prosperity to the people of Romania and freedom to the people of Czechoslovakia.

Although people were glad to have seen the expansion of public services, few truly believed that they had seen anything like value for money in improved public services for the vast outpouring of public expenditure and high taxation involved.

The Chancellor had presided over the most massive expansion of public spending, far beyond the nation's resources.

The Chancellor had made the curious statement: "Popular expectations for improved public service and welfare programmes have not been matched by growth in output."

Too true (he said) but who is it that has done so much to arouse those expectations if it is not the Labour Party? (Conservative cheers.)

The Government had allowed the expansion of public spending to take a particularly harmful form leading to a dramatic explosion of wage inflation.

The Chancellor continued to say he was steering the course set out in last year's Budget then. All was now being presented as part of a grand design. The truth was that the Chancellor knew what he ought to have done then, to begin cutting public expenditure, so as to create more room for expansion of the private sector now. His failure to do so had resulted in still more jobs being destroyed. The White Paper was a totally inadequate response to the present situation.

The White Paper offered the prospect of still further increases in the tax burden. It represented a less than adequate response to the problems.

Although the prospect was bleak, there was a way out. In the first place the Chancellor should be a great deal more honest about the hardships that would be involved in getting this nation back on the road. Secondly, he must acknowledge that some immediate falls in living standards were inescapable if far worse reductions in living standards were to be avoided later.

The changes must not be achieved by the route he prescribed, of still higher taxes. They could only be achieved by ensuring those who could afford it to pay more realistic prices for the goods and services they enjoyed.

Firms would not invest because real profits had become virtually non-existent. Steps had to be taken to restore profitability. There was no chance of promoting investment today if there was the prospect of rigid price control over the profits of tomorrow.

The Chancellor must move in quickly to reduce the burden of subsidies. He was committed to eliminating the subsidies on nationalized industry prices. He should be looking much more at the scope for reducing subsidies on housing.

Finally and most important of all, if the Government intended to make the reductions necessary in public spending they should abandon the sacred cows of socialism, still stalking through the industrial towns and cities, destroying jobs as they went.

The total unnecessary cost of Government programmes which had been introduced, and were being carried through, including land charges, was £4,000m. Britain's desperate situation was the result of the Government's policies.

The policies foreshadowed in the White Paper offered only some of the same.

Treasury's former fine control lost–Minister

Mr Nicholas Ridley, for the Opposition (Cirencester and Tewkesbury, C) said the White Paper was a document of shame because it did not make any cuts. He would say to the *Tribune* group that they were a lot of White Paper tigers. If they did not like the White Paper they should vote against it.

If there had been one theme running through the debate upon which nearly everybody was agreed it was that the only way out was to have increased private sector investment which would take up first the unemployed and later would take people out of the public sector and put them into productive employment in industry.

To do this it was necessary to change the tax system and to reduce the spiteful element in the taxes which had been brought in by the Government. Not only must room be made for the investment but they must reverse the engines of socialism which had thought it right to penalize investors, those who made capital profits, those who had higher salaries and wished to earn more by harder work.

Because of the record of this and past socialist governments confidence that there would be security for industrial investment and hard work was at a low ebb. The Labour Party had to find some way of giving guarantees of good behaviour, of avoiding the socialist claptrap and nonsense they talked in and out of the House, if they were to get the firm foundation upon which industrial expansion in the private sector could take place.

Mr Robert Sheldon, Financial Secretary to the Treasury under-Lyne, Lab) said the difficulties of achieving a low level of unemployment were much concerned with the problem of controlling the economy, which was quite a different prospect from that in the early postwar years or in the early 1960s. Problems of high levels of inflation and high public sector borrowing requirements removed from the Treasury the fine control they used to have.

As long as the Government were not resorting for too long to deficit finance they could engage in a certain deficit in order to increase the volume of employment.

That is not possible today (he said) with the high levels of public sector borrowing requirement that we now have. We have to reduce levels of inflation and levels of public sector borrowing requirement so that we can return to that kind of control over the economy that we once had.

The debate was adjourned.

House adjourned, 10.24 pm.

Parliamentary notices

House of Commons

Today at 2.30: Debate on public expenditure White Paper. Motion on EEC documents on proteins.

House of Lords

Today at 2.15: Debate on level of taxation.

صكذا في الأصل

EUROPE

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...may prepare way ...enunciation by ...nish King's father

...rrespondent ...ch 9

...Carlos met his ...Juan, the Count of ...re today as wide- ...s continued in the ...try and the court ...e military officers ... second day in ...

...ad lunch with his ...arzuela palace out- ...and was returning ...n Estoril, Portugal, ... Don Juan is the ...he Spanish throne, ...Franco passed over ... count when he ...is son as future ...

...t that Don Juan ...ce his claim to the ... increased by his ...irmed reports have ...ing for some time ... abdicate in favour ... head of the Bour- ...thus restoring the ...legitimacy of the ...ssion.

...s ago his press ...denied newspaper ...he would renounce ...on. Don Juan has ...wn that he might ... do so when democ- ...red to Spain. He ... by the Spanish ...last summer not to ... after he made a ... Estoril criticizing General Franco's choice of Juan Carlos as King. Later the ban was lifted.

An estimated 150,000 workers are still out on strike in the Basque country. Workers at many factories returned to work this morning to hold meetings where they decided to continue their strikes until all those arrested in incidents over the past week were released.

In Basauri, near Bilbao, where a youth was killed, about 20,000 people demonstrated today. The police did not break up the demonstration.

At the court martial of an Army major and eight captains near Madrid, Colonel Luis Saez, prosecuting, today asked for the charge of plotting sedition to be changed to the more serious one of plotting military rebellion. But he did not ask for the demanded sentences, ranging from three to 12 years, to be changed.

All but one of the defendants, Captain Ruiz Cillero, refused to give evidence as a protest at the banning by military authorities of civilian lawyers. Colonel Saez said the accused belonged to the illegal Democratic Military Union and that their actions imperilled the unity of the armed forces.

Major Jose Lacalle, defending, said the accused had denied their membership of the union.

France is crippled by public sector stoppage

From Richard Wigg
Paris, March 9

A day after its setback at the hands of the Socialist-led opposition in the local government elections, the French administration suffered another blow today when a 24-hour strike by civil servants and public sector workers proved widely effective.

The strike, called by all union groupings from the Communist CGT to the moderate Force Ouvrière (FO), was aimed at forcing the Government to raise its offers in public service pay negotiations which stalled last week.

In the face of the strike's effectiveness M Gabriel Peronnet, Secretary of State for Public Services, indicated that the talks could resume tomorrow.

There was no post today, one out of every two main line trains failed to run, and two out of three on Paris suburban lines. Schoolchildren had to stay home (the unions claimed a 90 per cent effective strike in primary schools). There were no collections by dustmen, local government offices were almost deserted, and in Paris about 30,000 civil servants joined a protest march.

The unions have chosen the public sector, with its job security, for their offensive while labour combativity in the private sector is much reduced by the consciousness of one million unemployed.

But while the Communist CGT and the Socialist CFDT see a political advantage in the timing of today's strike, M André Bergeron, secretary general of the FO, has emphasized that his aim is to obtain pay concessions.

After the January increase of 1.1 per cent in the official consumer price index, the Government is anxious not to aggravate inflationary tendencies by agreeing public sector wage increases which would provoke "leap-frogging" in private industry.

Last year the hourly wage-rate index increased by over 14 per cent, compared to 20 per cent the year before. But this year the Government's undeclared target is for purchasing power to stay only even with the inflation rate, estimated at between 8 and 10 per cent.

Meanwhile, the Government today announced two measures to help protect workers and save jobs.

M Michel d'Ornano, the Minister of Industry, answered appeals from shoe manufacturers, faced by increased Italian and Spanish competition, by launching a programme of "several million francs" to help restructure the industry's many small firms.

In addition customs controls are to be stepped up to restrict imports of shoes and leather, and the European Commission is to be asked to look into the possibility of temporary measures to protect the French market.

M Michel Durafour, the Minister of Labour, today also outlined a Bill to go before Parliament next month to increase safety at work. Penalties for negligence by employers and workers will be stepped up, and financial incentives are envisaged to make firms more safety conscious on the factory floor.

According to official statistics published today, 2,117 deaths were among the total of 1,155,000 accidents at work in 1974.

M Pierre Sudreau, author of the report on industrial reform the Government commissioned at the end of 1974, protested publicly today over the slowness of applying its recommendations. Many proposals could easily have been implemented by decree, he said.

Leading article, page 15



Post Office workers demonstrating in Paris yesterday during a national 24-hour strike by public service employees.

Reorganized kidnap gang strikes again

From Our Correspondent
Milan, March 9

With the kidnapping here last night of Signor Raffaele Molinari, a wealthy scrap iron dealer, there have been four cases of kidnapping in the past month in Milan alone—two in the past four days. Last year there were 13 in the whole of Lombardy, with a total of about 11,000m lire (£7.4m) paid as ransom.

There had been a lull in kidnappings after the arrest of a well-known Mafia leader and 10 of his accomplices last year, but now the gang seems to have reorganized.

The police believe the kidnapping in Lombardy to be the work of a Mafia organization formed among the immigrants from the south.

Different men are used in the various stages of every single venture. Those who are involved directly in the abduction are not the same that take the victim into custody or who negotiate with the parents, which makes it difficult even when some of the criminals are caught to trace to the core of the organization.

The gang also operates an efficient information network for they are aware of the state of the victim's finances and his habits.

...es threaten to bring ...gal to a standstill

...rrespondent ...h 9

... strikes has broken ...gal and threatens ... the general elec- ...hes.

... serious of the ... the distributing ...e national oil re- ... This threatens to ...ally to other sec- ...rm's employees. At ...erence the workers ...ot a political strike ...erned entirely with ...workers' claims date ... before the military ...ousted the Caetano ...April, 1974.

... complication is the ...e Government has ...proved the statutes ... of the four existing ...acor, Cidla, Sonap ..., which represent ...nd distributing and ...y-products in Por- ...

...ere is a shortage ...id, if the strike ...y paralyse the en-

Other strikes are either operating or threatened in the textile, pharmaceutical and brewing industries, and there is a threat of electricity cuts in the northern Aveiro and Figueira da Foz areas because of a wage dispute.

A similar dispute has led the workers of a thermo-electronics firm to detain its two managers on the premises on the ground that wage claims have not been met. The police were sent to surround the premises on the outskirts of Lisbon, and the two men were removed under escort.

The Revolutionary Council today announced that it would give priority to ensuring the utmost cohesion in the armed forces. Reports of a split between political groups in the armed forces have been causing anxiety recently.

A few hours after a new weekly newspaper, *O Sol*, appeared today, a bomb exploded outside its Lisbon offices, smashing the windows.

European MPs' concern on direct elections pledge

From Our Own Correspondent
Strasbourg, March 9

There is growing concern among members of the European Parliament that EEC heads of government may renege on their commitment to approve a convention providing for direct elections to the Assembly when they hold their next summit in Luxembourg on April 1 and 2.

The Parliament decided today to hold a debate on direct elections on Thursday in place of their originally scheduled discussion of the Tindemans report on European Union.

A strong resolution, calling on heads of government to sign the convention without fail, is expected to be tabled by the Christian Democrat group. The European Conservatives, led by Sir Peter Kirk, and the Progressive Democrats (Gaullists and Fianna Fail) may table a more moderate version.

The Socialist group appear to be undecided on their approach.

The anxiety among MPs here has been mainly aroused by what Sir Peter described as "ominous noises from Paris" suggesting that President Giscard d'Estaing's commitment to direct elections may be weakening in the face of opposition from a curious alliance of Gaullists and Communists.

Parliamentary report, page 6

Women plan world watch on oppression

From Our Own Correspondent
Brussels, March 9

The first international tribunal on crimes against women had cut across national barriers and "inspired an international spirit of sisterhood", the organizers told a press conference in Brussels today.

The five-day conference, which brought together more than 1,000 women from nearly 30 countries, produced agreement to set up a permanent network of contacts to plan international strategy on issues ranging from rape to wife-beating and a worldwide feminist newsletter. A manifesto adopted by acclaim ended with the message: "Sisterhood is powerful, women of all countries unite."

The organizers today made great play of the spontaneity of the conference, which, they said, made it quite unlike similar male-inspired gatherings. They also strongly defended a decision by participants to exclude male journalists from most of the proceedings.

Mrs Lily Boeykens, a Belgian member of the tribunal's coordinating committee, said that the decision had been a good thing from the feminist point of view. It had meant that women had been granted greater opportunities than ever before to carry out their journalistic functions.

In any case, male journalists had had access to the proceedings through women delegates and press conferences.

That view was not shared by male journalists who last Friday found themselves not only excluded from the tribunal but also from press briefings outside the conference hall. In retaliation the International Press Association in Brussels issued a sharp statement denouncing what it called this "narrow-minded attitude" which "undermined the free democratic press and the equality of women and men".

The loose organization of the tribunal, which allowed individuals complete freedom to testify to the full conference at will, also led to some confusion. Last Saturday, proceedings nearly broke down during a demonstration by lesbians worried about when they would get the floor.

On the more positive side, the tribunal produced nearly 30 resolutions on various topics.

Minister warns winegrowers over shooting

From Our Own Correspondent
Paris, March 9

M Michel Poniatowski, the French Interior Minister, today warned the winegrowing community of the south-west that the "criminals" responsible for last week's fatal shooting of an anti-riot police officer would be brought to justice.

M Poniatowski gave this pledge when he attended the funeral of Joel Le Goff, promoted colonel and decorated posthumously, at Toulouse today. The minister emphasized that France could not accept that the police should be attacked by any sectional interest, whatever its socio-economic problem.

Student jailed over racial slogans

Oslo, March 9.—A magistrate's court today jailed a student for 60 days for racial discrimination. The student, aged 26, admitted painting "derisive and threatening" slogans against coloured people on Oslo walls.—Reuter.

"We'd like to think ...at more people fly TWA across the Atlantic because we're terrific."

...ellers' allow... The in-flight crew (right) may have something. But of course everyone has their own idea.

Bill Slattery, vice president of schedules, believes ...A's 187 departures every week from Europe, ...th Africa and the Middle East to a total of 35 cities in ...erica have more bearing on the subject.

...ident reelecte... ...group suppor... Harriet Korn, director of in-flight, puts up an ...resting case for the choice of 2 films and 8 tracks of ...national audio on every Trans World Service flight.

Dieter Buehler, head of dining, says that the choice ... meals in Economy and 5 in First Class is a much ...e satisfying reason.

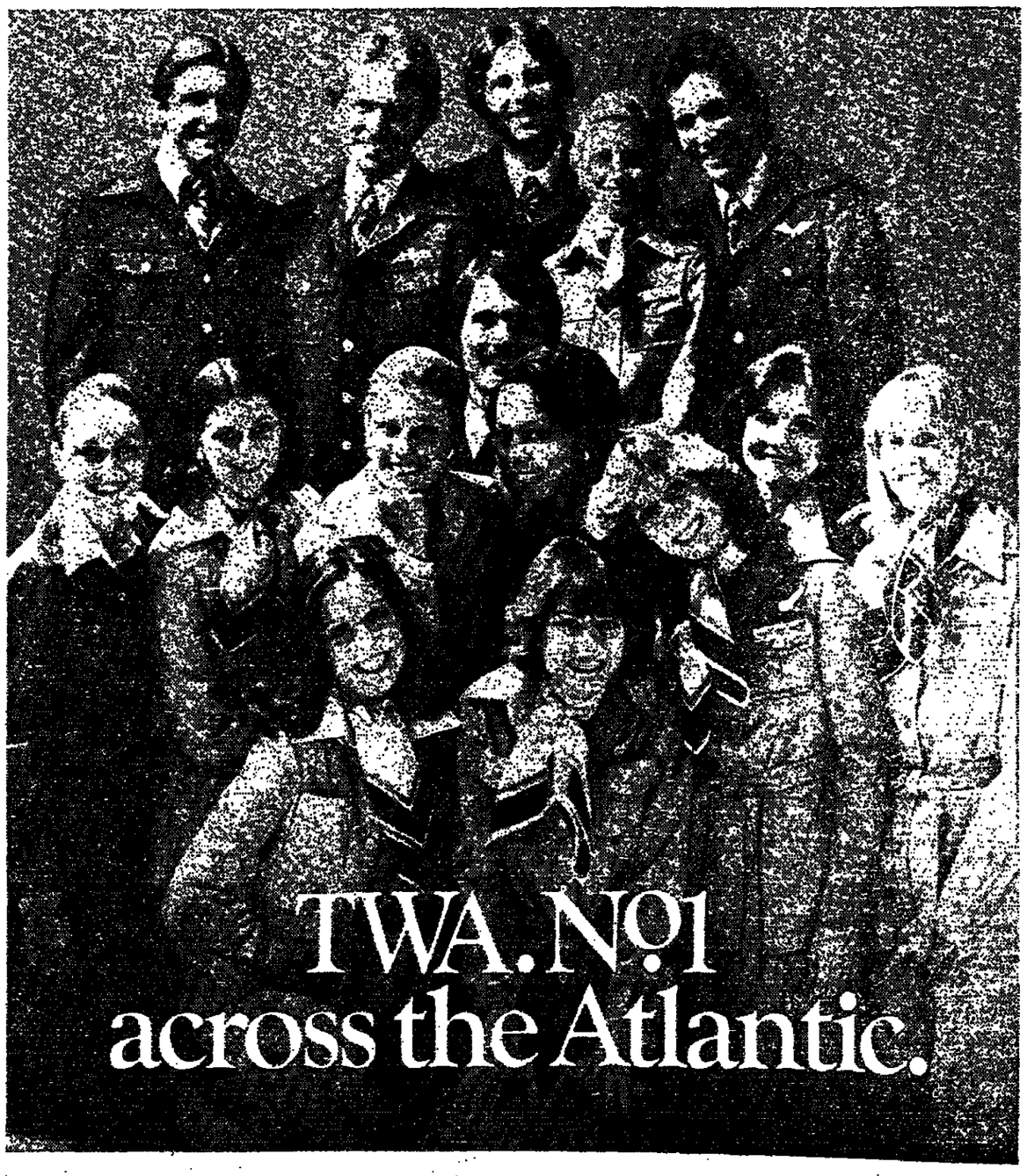
Jules Rondepierre, interior designer, suggests that ...A's wide, body-contoured seats in 747's are more ...e point.

Andrée Picq, ground hostess, offers the unique ...on of TWA's exclusive New York terminal.

And pilots are certain that TWA's consistent on- ...performance is a much more important factor.

But it may just be that Charline, Kathryn, Lewis, ...ara, Shirley, Rick, Larry, Laura, Phyllis, Lynn, Ellyn, ...ise, Art, Neal and Jane are right.

After all, they get to know you better than ...ne.



...By international agreement, there's a nominal charge for in-flight entertainment. And for alcoholic beverages in economy class.

OVERSEAS

Rhodesian minister says security forces have kept entire country free of terrorist control

From Michael Knipe
Salisbury, March 9

A Rhodesian Government minister said today that while a sizable number of African nationalist guerrillas were on Rhodesian soil, and operating on two fronts, they were being hounded and harried day and night by Rhodesian security forces. As a result, he said, there was no area of the country that was "under terrorist control or terrorist domination".

Giving a press briefing, Mr Edward Sutton-Price, a Deputy Minister in the Department of the Prime Minister, said that since January there had been a series of new incursions across the north-east border, which since 1972 had been the traditional area of rebel operations. At the same time there had been additional incursions across the eastern border down to the junction of the Rhodesian-South Africa border.

In the north-east, the rebels were present "in fair numbers" but were kept constantly on the move by the security forces. On the eastern border, by contrast, indications such as footprints showed clearly that the attacks had taken place on a hit-and-run basis and were launched from Mozambique. After hitting what could be described as soft targets the infiltrators retreated back across the border.

Mr Sutton-Price said today that, wherever security forces got to grips with the rebel forces, they had always inflicted very heavy casualties.

"This situation will continue because our forces have built up a tremendous expertise in this field and they are one of the most, if not the most, proficient anti-terrorist organization in the world."

Mr Sutton-Price said the rebel offensive was communist armed, directed and trained and designed to take over the wealth and strategic importance of southern Africa as a whole.

In answer to a question, he said the rebels were being equipped by Eastern block countries rather than by the Chinese and had only conventional small arms and support weapons.

Asked why, if a foreign power were involved, the rebel offensive was on such a relatively small scale, Mr Sutton-Price said it was because it suited the purpose of the rebels' backers for the moment.

Did Rhodesia envisage Cuban forces becoming involved? This was a possibility, said the minister, but he put it at no more than that. There had been "fairly scathing criticism of Cuban involvement in Angola" and they seemed prepared to lay low for a while.

Answering another question, Mr Sutton-Price said that Rhodesia could cope with an Angolan-type operation involving Cuban forces mounted from Mozambique; but a direct physical Russian involvement would take the war into an entirely new dimension and this was not a scale of activity in which Rhodesia would be operating alone.

The minister refused to comment on whether Rhodesia envisaged receiving renewed assistance from South African military forces and said the prospect of assistance from the United States was an imponderable. He noted the dividing line between man power and military equipment.

The prospect of what he described as psychological help from Britain was a possibility if an aceptable rapprochement was obtained in the constitutional talks between the Government and Mr Joshua Nkomo's faction of the African National Council.

Mr Sutton-Price said that along the border the Government had a deterrent, about which he would give no details, but which was in the course of completion. It also had a vehicle, designed and built for mine protection and detection, which was "rolling off the production line".

On the civil side, in order to break contact between the rebels and the local population, between 175,000 and 200,000 rural Africans had been concentrated voluntarily in a series of protected or consolidated villages.

'Sunshine state' goes to polls amid rain, thunder and tornadoes

Stormy outlook for Ford and Wallace vote

From Fred Emery
Miami, March 9

Rain, thunderstorms and the occasional tornado today belied the name of the "sunshine state" as voters in Florida sorted out the Republican and Democratic candidates in the year's first primaries of the south. Local officials maintained that the turnout looked good and might exceed 50 per cent, which is exceptional for a primary. The severe weather hit "Wallace country" in the northern part of the state. The rain elsewhere might discourage the large proportion of old age pensioners among the electorate and possibly keep at home those favouring President Ford. Indeed Mr Ford, having been accorded a magical reversal of the momentum earlier detected flowing to Mr Ronald Reagan, his Republican challenger, now stands to lose the most from complacency.

Today both Ford and Reagan camps were predicting victory, and by almost identical margins. Mr "Tommy" Williams, the Reagan Florida campaign manager, insisted that his man would win with 55 per cent, which he called a landslide. Representative Louis Frey, Mr Ford's man, said the President would destroy the challenger by getting 56.1 per cent.

Last time the two men were matched—only two weeks ago in New Hampshire—Mr Ford scraped home with 49.39 per cent to Mr Reagan's 47.96 per cent.

US Presidential Elections 1976

On the Democratic side there were no firm predictions. The jitters were strongly evident. Mr Wallace's men claimed they would win again, and professed, unconvincingly, that they would be content with 30 per cent of the vote compared with the 42 per cent Mr Wallace got here in 1972. Mr Jimmy Carter claimed he would be gratified to give Mr Wallace a close race, when he needs this win to reignite his candidature.

Senator Henry Jackson claimed he would be happy if he did better than in 1972 when he got 13 per cent. If he does not, his Massachusetts victory last week will look like a flash in the pan.

In southern Florida voting was reported brisk, with queues forming at some polling stations before opening time at 7 am. A visit to Miami Precinct 608 polling station (also labelled *centro de votacion*, this being the first time the ballot and instructions are also printed in Spanish for the large Spanish-speaking community) revealed that Americans have some of the same problems a foreigner might have in grasping the differences between primaries and general elections.

One old woman—one of several dissatisfied registered Democrats—wanted to vote for Mr Ford. She tried doing so in the booth but the voting lever would not go down. The machine is fixed, legitimately so, for respective party registrations.

The clerk explained that registered Democrats could only vote for Democrats and registered Republicans for Mr Ford or Mr Reagan. (Those not registered could not vote in the presidential primaries here.) "But I thought we were choosing the President, they were all on the television this morning", the old woman said. She was advised gently that she could do that in November.

Another of the machines got stuck completely, but a repairman was quickly on the scene to adjust it, under the firm gaze of scrutineers.

Democracy looked complicated in Precinct 608, but the wrinkles were ironed out smoothly with the kindly help o the lady election officer. In spite of the expanse of the 4ft by 2ft ballot, there were only 12 votes to be cast—including some very important local referendums limiting taxes and controlling bond interest on water management. For many people, with homes built on reclaimed swamp and seeing the strain put on water supplies in the building boom, these issues were more important than who becomes President.

Compared with the Republican two-man race, the Democratic line on the ballot resembled a platoon. Some state committee had boosted the Florida secretary of state's list to 12, including those yet to announce such as Senator Church and even a local evangelist, the Rev Arthur O. Blessit.

Not until No 4, Mr Carter, is there a serious candidate, while Mr Wallace has the presumed advantage of bringing up the rear (alphabetically), next to No 13 "*no preferencia*". At No 7 Mr Jackson perhaps did well to get his nickname Scoop printed on the ballots.

Polling day was otherwise enlivened by a national television appearance of Mrs Cornelia Wallace. She has written a book entitled *C'nelia*, to be published next month, about her life with the governor since he was shot in 1972. She offered a fascinating insight into her husband's relentless pursuit of the campaign which she said she now finds "very painful".

For him, however, "it is good therapy . . . political life is very important for his feeling of independence". She meant, she said, that as a cripple he needed to be made to feel masculine again, and to shake off his feeling of dependence on herself and others.

First class US post will become 'a luxury'

From Peter Strafford
New York, March 9

Users of the American postal service, unhappy about an increase in rates at the beginning of this year, have been given a warning that the service they get may have to be further reduced. One idea being considered is to reduce the present deliveries six days a week to five.

The warning was given by Mr Benjamin Bailar, the Postmaster General, in a speech in Detroit. Mr Bailar said that new technology and changing habits were making the postal service obsolete, and drastic action would have to be taken.

One possibility, he said, was a substantial rise in rates, the public elects to continue the postal system in its present form, it will have to pay a steep price. It may find that a first-class stamp becoming a luxury item in the next decade and the postal service a pursuit for the rich, from simpler, more affluent times."

Mr Bailar talked of trimming services that "no longer make economic sense". Such services, he suggested, were front door delivery everywhere, delivery six days a week, the maintenance of the present number of post offices totalling 40,000 and the policy of charging the same for all first-class letters regardless of whether they were mechanically pre-sorted or posted individually by hand.

Mr Bailar was one of the champions of the changes made in 1970 as a result of which the Post Office became a semi-independent agency. But he has become engaged in a battle with Congress, which has resisted some of his cost-cutting plans, such as the closing of small post offices.

In his speech in Detroit, he said that the volume of mail was down from the peak reached in 1974, and was never likely to reach it again. The postal service could become obsolete because "almost everyone has a telephone, several radios, a television set, and better automobile that provides access to shopping, banking, education and other services".

For individuals, he said, there is no secret that the telephone comes before the letter in personal communications". For businesses, the development of electronic means of communication meant less use of the postal service.

Mr Bailar's remarks are likely to find ready acceptance in Congress. The *Wall Street Journal* comments that they are likely to be interpreted as a scare tactic in order to win a bigger subsidy. It also notes that more and more people are looking for ways of doing without the postal service, because of the higher rates.

Concorde ban 'unconstitutional'

From Our Own Correspondent
Washington, March 9

Mr William Coleman, the Secretary for Transportation, said today that the Act passed by the New York State Legislature banning Concorde from using Kennedy airport was unconstitutional.

At a lunch in the National Press Club here he was asked whether any Act passed by local authorities banning Concorde could override a federal decision. In his reply he considered a specific instance, the New York Act, not the general principle.

"It is my judgment", he said, "that the New York statute that I have seen passed so far is unconstitutional because, one, it is discriminatory and, secondly, because I think that a reasonable court ought to call it an undue burden on foreign commerce."

Mr Coleman observed that for the New York Act to come into effect, the New Jersey legislature must first pass an identical measure as Kennedy airport is owned jointly by the two states. It would then be up to the airlines wanting to take Concorde into New York to initiate action in the courts.

As far as the federal Government is concerned, he said that it would be up to the Secretary of State and the Attorney General to make a judgment on the constitutionality of the Act.

Mr Coleman was asked once again about the effects Concorde would have on the environment in Virginia, near Dulles airport. The aircraft's noise would have no effect on buildings or people, he said, and reminded his audience that 83 per cent of aircraft now using American airports do not conform to the noise standards laid down

On take-off, it is noiser than any other commercial jet flying, but he said that the five extra decibels involved, which seem to make it twice as noisy, bring it up to a noise equivalent to that made by a lorry at 45 mph when people are 50ft away.

He added that the British would never have put up with Concorde at Heathrow if it had been as noisy as its critics maintain.

Red Guards hint of drive against Mr Teng

From David Bonavia
Peking, March 9

Veiled threats that a new Red Guard campaign may be whipped up to oust Mr Teng Hsiao-ping, China's Deputy Prime Minister, appeared today in leading newspapers. Statements attributed to members of the Communist Youth League recalled that 10 years ago it was the young people who brought down the then head of state, Liu Shao-chi.

The Young Communist League is a relatively dormant organization which was revived in 1973 after a seven-year period of inactivity. It is rarely heard of and its members seem to be mainly former Red Guards who are indignant that they have not been promoted as fast as their political record might have warranted.

Articles published today quoted unnamed members of the youth league as saying that the "unrepentant capitalist roader" [Mr Teng] had "surreptitiously put people into positions of authority in various departments".

This accusation was combined with the statement that Mr Teng had ignored Chairman Mao's policy of a "three-way combination" of old, middle-aged and young officials to administer China.

The article continued: "They have expressed wrong opinions, spread political rumours, used many kinds of tricks, split the revolutionary ranks, sabotaged the unity of the party and turned the point of the spear against the party Central Committee headed by Chairman Mao."

The former Red Guards declared: "We smashed the bourgeois headquarters of Liu Shao-chi and Lin Piao. Today, if there is revisionism, we will criticize it, struggle with it and rebel against it under the leaders of the party."

US rejects 'blackmail' of allies

Washington, March 9.—Dr Henry Kissinger, the Secretary of State, told senators today that the United States must reject "the heavy-handed attempts" to force it to work with the Soviet Union to "blackmail" France and West Germany by cutting off their supply of nuclear materials.

Both nations have sold nuclear processing facilities capable of making possible the production of nuclear bombs to non-nuclear nations. Several senators have urged a moratorium on all American nuclear exports as a retaliatory measure.

Dr Kissinger rejected all such proposals saying that the "symbolism of the United States cooperating with the Soviet Union to blackmail its two closest allies in Nato would have very serious consequences" that would run counter in the long run to the American desire to limit the spread of nuclear weapons.

In an exchange with Senator Abraham Ribicoff, chairman of the Senate government operations committee, Dr Kissinger said that "to use heavy-handed pressure on these two countries will only accelerate their nuclear economies".

Senator Ribicoff, a Democrat, said: "I see no reason why the United States should continue to be so timid in allowing France and Germany to continue to spread the possibility of nuclear devastation." If the United States was not able to cooperate with the Russians on a question of such potential consequence to all the world, then the concept of détente "should be tossed into the sewer".

In a reference to the abandonment of the use of the word "détente" by President Ford, Dr Kissinger replied, to laughter, "I think there is already a great deal of movement in that direction anyway".

Senator Ribicoff insisted that the matter was too important to the future of the world for the United States to consider only the national feelings of its allies. "I think the United States has abdicated its leadership in this very important field."

Dr Kissinger said the United States was continuing to build on what he called a solid framework of policy and continuing negotiations to halt the spread of nuclear weapons. But "overly severe constraints" would have further negative effects.

In what senators described as his first important statement on nuclear proliferation, Dr Kissinger said American arrangements were designed to inhibit and detect any diversion of nuclear material and that the United States would treat a violation of one of its agreements "with the utmost gravity".—AP.

Britain stands firm on Falklands issue

New York, March 9.—Britain is standing by its claims to sovereignty over the Falkland Islands (Malvinas), according to a letter published here today.

It also rejected a declaration by the inter-American juridical committee of the Organization of American States supporting Argentine claims to the islands.

The letter was sent by Mr Ivor Richard, the British Representative, to the chairman of the United Nations decolonization committee.

There could be no doubt, the letter said, about British sovereignty over the islands and Britain was therefore manifestly within its rights in setting up a survey of the economy of the islands.

The juridical committee's declaration, issued in Rio de Janeiro on January 16, had alleged that the British survey mission led by Lord Shackleton was a "unilateral innovation" which violated United Nations resolutions in relation to the Falklands dispute.

Mr Richard also denied that British warships in the area threatened the peace and security of the continent or violated international rules on intervention.—Reuter.

Four die in Olympic stadium fall

From Our Correspondent
Montreal, March 9

Four construction workers at the Olympic Stadium fell 185 feet to their death last night when part of one of the huge cantilever ribs broke off.

Three of the men were working inside the hollow beam, and the fourth was on top when two 70-ton sections broke loose. It was the last of 34 beams that are the main structural components of the $564m (about £282m) stadium being built for the Olympic Games which begin on July 17.

Mr Roger Trudeau, site manager for the Quebec Government, said the accident occurred when workers began cutting away temporary bars holding the sections together

Most of the stadium's day shift of 2,500 men stopped work this afternoon in sympathy, but work was expected to return to normal tonight. Mr Trudeau said the accident would probably cause a day's delay in the stadium's right building timetable.

Mr Whitlam admits 'error' but rejects resignation

Canberra, March 9.—Mr Gough Whitlam, the former Australian Prime Minister, said today that he would not resign as leader of the Labour Party over the Iraqi money controversy.

Mr Whitlam said in a television interview that he had considered resigning, but "too many people would be disappointed if I were to give the show away".

The Opposition leader also said he expected to lead Labour in the next general election, due in 1978, making it clear he would not contemplate a reported deal that he would remain leader at present if he agreed to resign within 12 months.

However, moves within the Labour Party to depose him continued privately, following his condemnation by the party's national executive at the weekend for a "grave error of judgment".

Mr Whitlam's test will come at a meeting of the Parliamentary Labour Party on March 17.

He said in today's interview that his error had been not to scotch the suggestion of the Iraqi offer at the beginning.

He also admitted that he had introduced Mr David Combe, secretary of the Labour Party, to Mr Rubert Scarf, a Sydney businessman, as a possible starting point for raising money from Arab sources.

Mr Whitlam said it was not illegal to bring in foreign money. Describing how he became involved, he said: "I said unguardedly: 'Well, we might as well explore these possibilities ourselves'."

There had never been any suggestion that the Labour Party was selling out the Israelis.

He had not told members of the Labour Party executive of the negotiations because "they never asked, and it was not thought necessary to tell them".—AP.

Delhi judge in freedom of press case loses job

Delhi, March 9.—A senior Delhi judge who handed down an anti-Government ruling in a controversial press case has lost his job. The Government's refusal to give Mr R. N. Aggarwal a permanent appointment to the Delhi High Court has brought accusations from the country's most respected lawyers that the traditional independence of the Indian judiciary is in danger.

In a resolution, adopted unanimously, the Supreme Court Bar Association said: "The nonconformation is likely to further erode the independence of the judiciary and is likely to be taken as pressurizing the judiciary by the executive."

The Government's action, it added, was all the more disturbing because the executive branch had approved permanent appointments to the Delhi High Court for two other judges with less seniority than Mr Aggarwal.

Many Supreme Court lawyers said they thought Mr Aggarwal was being passed over because of his role in the ruling that the Government had illegally imprisoned Kuldip Nayar, a prominent Indian journalist, last year.

Mr Nayar, an editor of the Indian Express news service, is a correspondent for *The Times*. The judgment last September was the first case in which a person successfully challenged an arrest made under the emergency regulations.

A legal professor said the Chief Justice of the Delhi High Court had recommended that Mr Aggarwal be named to one of the three vacant permanent seats on the bench. He has been an additional—or temporary—judge of the High Court since 1972.

As a member of the country's judicial service, he is now faced with a decision whether to return to a low-level court on the district level or resign.

US Government renews its French connexion

From Our Own Correspondent
New York, March 9.

French, American and Canadian officials began a meeting in San Francisco today that was designed to step up cooperation against drug trafficking. The Americans are anxious to enlist as much support as they can in preventing drugs from reaching the United States. One of the purposes of the meeting was to exchange information.

Mexican officials were also taking part, although only as observers. The Americans estimate that as much as 80 per cent of the heroin now reaching the United States comes in over the Mexican border, much of it from countries further south, such as Colombia.

One of the main objects of the meeting was to extend an agreement, put into effect five years ago between the French police and the drug enforcement Administration in Washington. The Americans are pleased with the results of the agreement, which has involved the stationing of American agents in France and French agents here.

There was now little white heroin coming in by way of France, officials said. They put this down to Franco-American cooperation and to an acceptance in France of the view that the heroin traffic was dangerous to French people, too.

Dealing with imports from Mexico is a difficult business because of the length of the frontier and the ease of getting across it. Officials of the drug enforcement Administration said today that the Mexican Government was cooperating whole-heartedly with them.

Pro-Soviet Yugoslavs to stand trial

From Dessa Trevisan
Belgrade, March 9

Nine people accused of belonging to a pro-Soviet underground organization, which calls itself the New Marxist-Leninist Communist Party of Yugoslavia, will go on trial next week. The aim of their conspiracy, it is alleged, was to impose Soviet-style communism.

The trial will be held in Banja Luka, in Bosnia, where the defendants, most of them convicted previously of pro-Soviet activity, live.

Other trials are being held in Belgrade and in Novi Sad. They involve 15 people including Mr Jergely Lulic, a Yugoslav-born Hungarian official, who, as representative of a Hungarian foreign trade firm, is believed to have acted as a link between Yugoslav émigrés in Russia and pro-Soviet dissidents here. All three trials are closed to the public.

The indictments, which are almost identical in all three trials, suggest that the groups were connected and guided by Yugoslav exiles in Moscow. From them they received leaflets and instructions, one of which was to recruit younger people and not to rush into action until the time was ripe.

The indictment in the Banja Luka trial speaks of meetings in Moscow and Kiev which some of the defendants had with Yugoslav émigrés. It says they intended to address the letter to the Soviet Central Party Committee, asking it to intervene on behalf of the Soviet sympathizers who are allegedly persecuted here. They also tried, it says, to get the Soviet Central Committee to assist them in "bringing Yugoslavia back on the path of unity with other socialist countries".

Two years ago a group of more than 30 people were arrested and tried for organizing an underground communist party that advocated Soviet-style communism. The police seized their proclamation and a programme for action which, it was disclosed, was printed in Russia and brought into the country by diplomatic mail.

The group to be tried in Banja Luka was part of the same organization and the police seized leaflets calling for the overthrow of "revisionist Titoism" as well as a programme and proclamations.

In the proclamation it was said that all true communists must form revolutionary organizations able to unite all forces and make use of every protest and rebellion to strengthen the forces ready for decisive battle when President Tito died.

Blast kills three at arms plant

East Camden, Arkansas, March 9.—A series of explosions at a munitions factory here yesterday left three workers dead, one missing and 15 in hospital. The blasts apparently were set off by a bolt of lightning, officials said.

Hearst trial psychiatrist tells of threat to his life

San Francisco, March 9.—A Government psychiatric expert said today that he was told he would be killed if he gave evidence at Miss Patricia Hearst's trial on bank robbery charges.

Under cross-examination by Mr F. Lee Bailey, for the defence, Dr Joel Fort said he was under police protection as a result of an anonymous telephone call he received last week.

In his evidence to the court yesterday, Dr Fort said that Miss Hearst was a willing volunteer in the ranks of the Symbionese Liberation Army when she took part in a 1974 bank robbery.

He and Mr Bailey clashed in court last week when the defending counsel accused the doctor of trying to "fix" the case, and Dr Fort appeared testy as he replied to questions today.

Asked by Mr Bailey whether he was afraid of terrorists, the doctor replied: "I had a death threat last week that if I testified for the Government, I would be killed."

Asked who made the threat, he said: "I wish I knew. Do you know anything about it, Mr Bailey?"

Mr Bailey asked that the comment be struck from the record and the judge agreed.

The reference to the threat came after Mr Bailey's reading of a letter by Dr Fort requesting anonymity as a witness. The request was rejected, but Mr Bailey today sought to establish the reason for the letter's having been written.

Dr Fort said he seldom read newspapers because of his deep-seated distaste for press coverage of celebrated trials.

Mr Bailey offered no rejoinder as Dr Fort, in apparent reference to the defence lawyer's penchant for public comment, went on: "I've never had a press conference; I've never sought attention at trials; I've never hung around in the hallways after my testimony was done."

"She was the queen of the SLA". Dr Fort said. "She brought them international recognition, the excitement, the press attention.

At today's hearing, Mr Bailey attempted to portray Dr Fort as a highly paid consultant to the Government, while the doctor alluded repeatedly to the expensive defence mounted by the family of the newspaper heiress. Dr Fort disclosed that the Government expected to pay him $12,500 (about £5,200).

Woman killed in hotel fire in Los Angeles

Los Angeles, March 9.—Flames raced through the upper floors of a two-storey airport hotel here early today, burning a young woman to death in her room.

Argentine union split over crisis curbs

Buenos Aires, March 9.—Argentina's General Labour Confederation (CGT), which represents three million workers, was today split over the Government's austerity programme announced on Friday, which has sent prices soaring and pegged wage rises to 12 per cent.

The CGT's reaction is considered crucial to the survival of President Isabel Péron's Government.

Unofficial protests and strikes continued today, with 10,000 car workers staying out for the second day in Buenos Aires province, while in the Córdoba another 20,000 car workers conditionally resumed work after a 24-hour strike.

Tension rose in Córdoba too, with the kidnapping of two left-wing union militants. About 100 left-wingers have been kidnapped in Córdoba this year and most have later been found shot dead.

Businessmen also protested. The General Economic Confederation said smaller businesses faced bankruptcy, while the Permanent Assembly of Business Organizations was discussing possible refusal to pay taxes.—Reuter.

The Joy of Spring is denied to Kathy . . .

"I am a widow, alone on the fifth floor of a block, and feel very, very depressed. We are shut away in concrete cells, and for days don't see each other. I've lived a year in this block and don't know one tenant on my floor."

Help change Kathy's loneliness

You feel cut off from life if all you can do is stare out of the window from a tower block for hour after weary hour; if the only human voice you hear is on the radio or in the corridor.

Brave old people like Kathy deserve something better. Help the Aged is working to help lonely old folk by providing many more Day Centres—places where friendship and practical help are found. Many more centres and other services are urgently needed. Thanks to dedicated volunteers the charity is able to achieve a great deal with every £ donated.

£5	can bring practical help to another lonely person.
£30	provides two fireside chairs for a Day Centre.
£150	perpetuates the memory of someone dear to you, by inscribing their name on the Founders' Plaque of a Day Centre.

Your donation is desperately needed to help old people. So please use the FREEPOST facility and address your gift to: **Hon. Treasurer, The Rt. Hon. Lord Maybray-King, Help the Aged, Room T4S, FREEPOST 37, LONDON W1E 6UZ (no stamp needed).**

* Please let us know if you would like your gift used for a particular purpose.

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صكدا من الاصل

VERSEAS

ebanon fears action f mutineers could ause Israeli invasion

irut, March 9.—Army ineers today seized the nèse garrison town of ıya, on the slopes of ı Hermon, and Mr Rashid ni, the Prime Minister, he mutiny showed that people thought they take over the country. action, which consolidat- hold of army deserters stern Lebanon, cast a w over the mediation on of Mr Abdul-Halim dam, the Syrian Foreign ster, who returned to ion today. Syria has d an important part in g almost nine months of war in Lebanon.

e Syrian Foreign Minister straight into conference President Suleiman Fran- who is reported to fear another mutiny yesterday nnoun could provide a pre- for Israel to invade. rters seized an artillery ry near the crusader cas- f Beaufort, only four miles the Israeli frontier.

e Arnoun hilltop emplace- has four howitzers with the 60 deserters could Israeli settlements in r Galilee. The garrison at aya, which lies near a estinian guerilla supply te across the Syrian fron- er, was seized without oodshed, according to a local MP.

The Lebanese Parliament met for the first time in more than four months today and voted to keep itself in office for 26 months beyond the end of its four-year term in April. This was to avoid elections in the aftermath of the civil war. Army desertions over the past two months have shown that the danger of new fighting is still not removed, observers said.

Mr Karami told Parliament today: "The plot to divide the country into two peoples has been foiled and we are capable of foiling the plot to divide the ny into two. The Arnoun Rashaya incidents show there are some who still gine they can take over the rnment and the country igh such tactics."

e general uncertainty ed by the new mutinies a threat to the ceasefire Mr Khaddam arranged uary 22, and must cause worried about the whole — East situation. The ers, or Palestinian guer- sympathetic to them, risk that Syria could be d into a war with Israel at a time not of its own choosing.

The situation is made even worse by the persistent failure of the country's bickering politicians to agree on how to enlarge the Government, an objective decided upon after the ceasefire.

Arab diplomats questioned whether the mutineers might have the backing of guerrilla elements afraid of Syria's growing power over Lebanese affairs, and the threat that could pose to Palestinian freedom of action in Lebanon.

After his meeting with the President today, Mr Khaddam conferred for an hour with Imam Moussa Sadr, the spiritual head of the Shiite Muslims and an influential figure in districts where the mutineers now hold sway.

The Imam told reporters afterwards that the Syrian mediators had come because of the deterioration of security and "in particular the sensitivity of the situation in the south". He hoped the coming 24 hours would see "developments in the security situation in general and an end to the ordeal confronting the Lebanese Army".

The extension of the term of Parliament will mean that the election of a successor to President Franjieh, due to be held in August, will be by the existing assembly.

Kuwait, March 9—Mr Yassri Arafat, leader of the Palestine Liberation Organization, said here today that Palestine Liberation Army (PLA) units now in Lebanon would not remain longer than necessary.

Mr Arafat who arrived here early today from Saudi Arabia, also said that he did not foresee an imminent resumption of largescale fighting in Lebanon. "The PLO does not wish to prolong the PLA's stay in Lebanon and we are hoping to complete speedily the duties entrusted to the PLA", he added.

Mr Arafat said that his visits to Saudi Arabia and Kuwait were concerned with the "serious situation facing the Palestinian revolution and the Arab nation".

He denied persistent reports of plans for a Saudi-sponsored summit of four comprising himself, President Sadat of Egypt, President Assad of Syria, and King Khalid of Saudi Arabia. "I have no information about such a meeting", he said.—Reuter.

Israelis free 10 youths in Nablus gesture

From Eric Marsden
Jerusalem, March 9

In an attempt to break the deadlock in Nablus, where the town council has resigned and shops are on strike, the military authorities last night free 10 youths arrested during a demonstration on Sunday in a high school courtyard. Charges against them were dropped.

The authorities were hoping that this would persuade the town council to withdraw their collective resignations and return the town to normal. Some shops reopened today.

After a late sitting, the councillors refused an earlier appeal to retract their decision and claimed that troops should be withdrawn from the town. The council had given its backing to teachers who resigned after alleging that troops had severely beaten student safter forcing their way into the school.

The demonstration was in protest against the Government's protection of Jewish settlers camped out near Nablus and against a Jewish group's plan to pray on the Temple Mount in Jerusalem.

Mayors, chambers of commerce and women's organizations all over the West Bank cabled the military government in support of the Nablu scouncil

A suitacase filled with 15lb of dynamite and metal screws, with a timing device, was found in time to be made harmless at Netanya, north of Tel Aviv today. A traveller noticed the case unattended in the railway station and dumped it in a security pit before calling the police.

It was the second abortive attempt within a week. Last Thursday, a time bomb concealed in a schoolbag in the centre of Jerusalem exploded in a police car as it was being taken away, but caused no casualties.

A two-pronged campaign against the American policy of selling arms on a selective basis to Egypt has been launched by Israel.

Direct appeals to the Ford Administration have not so far made much impact but influential Jewish leaders in the United States are rallying support for Israel's case and reports suggest that Democratic presidential candidates, especially Senator Henry Jackson, are using the issue to attack President Ford.

ıde oil sent ough Suez ınal to Israel

erusalem, March 9.—Israel icials today confirmed that an tanker filled with crude oil Israel had passed through Suez Canal for the first e.

hipping agents in Port Said d yesterday that the Liberian ker Gemini had gone through canal on its way from Iran Haifa with 20,000 tons of ian crude oil.

Under the IsraelEgyptian ai disengagement agreement, non-Israel ships heading to from Israel with non-military terials are allowed to pass ough the canal.—Reuter.

ve climbers killed

karta, March 9.—Five bers in a party of 16 died exposure after scaling the 00ft Mount Ciremai in st Java, police said today.—uter.

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Cairo now holds 20 from Libya over kidnap plot

From Our Correspondent
Cairo, March 9

The number of Libyans under arrest in Cairo on charges of plotting to carry out subversive acts against Egypt upon orders from Colonel Gaddafi, the Libyan leader, now stands at 20.

Major-General Hassan Abu Basha, chief of the state security department, said today that they had arrived in five groups at intervals to commit sabotage acts and assassinate a number of Egyptian public figures.

In an interview with the Cairo newspaper *Al-Akhbar* today, General Abu Basha, did not disclose the names of those whom the Libyans were to eliminate.

He said the Libyans were storm troops and had been ordered to kidnap Captain Omar Meheishi, a dissident member of Libya's Revolutionary Command Council who had denounced Colonel Gaddafi's policies and come to live in Egypt.

The Libyans were also ordered to kidnap Major *Abdul Moneim al-Honi*, Libya's Foreign Minister, who is also in dispute with Colonel Gaddafi. Major Honi, granted political asylum in Egypt, had changed his flight to Rome four days ago after being tipped off by the Egyptian authorities of the plan to kidnap him, General Abu Basha said.

The general said that the Libyans had been under surveillance since their arrival at Cairo airport two weeks ago. The other three Libyans arrested at Rome airport carrying guns and other weapons had been searched at Cairo airport before departure. General Abu Basha added that he had assumed that they were given the arms in the Rome airport transit lounge. A Libyan aircraft had arrived from Tripoli while they were there.

The three Libyans were described here as another of Colonel Gaddafi's "subversive squads". Cairo newspapers said they left Cairo for Rome with tickets bought by the Libyan Embassy in Cairo to kidnap Major Honi. The newspapers added that a senior member of the embassy had left Cairo unexpectedly after the arrest of his countrymen.

The prosecutor general has ordered the release of Mr Muhammad Masmoudi, a former Tunisian foreign minister who was questioned in connexion with the alleged kidnap plots, according to the newspapers.

General Abu Basha quoted Mr Masmoudi as having told investigators that he had acted as a mediator between Colonel Gaddafi and the two kidnap targets. Mr Masmoudi was quoted by the general as saying that he had visited the two Libyan leaders in Cairo to persuade them to make peace with Colonel Gaddafi.

He was reported to have told the investigators that he had given their addressses to the Libyan embassy in good faith.

General Abu Basha said Mr Masmoudi also told investigators that he had been double crossed by the Libyan authorities who were plotting the kidnappings all the time. The semi-official *Al-Ahram* reported that Mr Masmoudi was ordered to stay in Cairo until investigations have been completed.

Tripoli, March 9.—The Libyan news agency today accused Egypt of arresting and insulting Libyan residents in Egypt and attacking their homes. "If the Libyan authorities were to follow the same line of action, the Egyptians would have received a heavy blow", it said.—Reuter.

Pacific nations compromise on nuclear-free zone

From Our Correspondent
Auckland, March 9

The South Pacific Forum, an association of nine nations, including Australia and New Zealand, agreed in Rotorua today to a much watered down version of a proposal for a nuclear-free zone in the Pacific. The island nations in the forum bowed to pressure from New Zealand and Australia to allow some nuclear weapons and nuclear powered vessels in the area.

Today's agreement backed away from a strong United Nations resolution, co-sponsored by New Zealand's former Labour Government, Fiji, and Papua New Guinea.

The compromise came after forceful representations from Mr Muldoon, New Zealand's new National Party Prime Minister. The forum decided that in pursuing a nuclear-free zone it would respect the principle of freedom of navigation on high seas and ensure there would be no incompatibility with existing security arrangements.

As a result the proposal now becomes a resolution aimed at *land-based nuclear weapons*, specifically the continuing French underground testing in French Polynesia. It does not attempt to restrict the movement of nuclear warships and submarines through the region.

The compromise avoided a split that could have threatened the future of the five-year-old South Pacific Forum. It also eased pressure on the Anzus (United States, Australia and New Zealand) defence alliance.

Asked later whether his attitude was the result of American pressure, Mr Muldoon said: "It is not United States pressure, it is realism—do we or do we not want the Anzus alliance to continue?" He said there was pressure in America for such alliances to cease, particularly in the South Pacific. It was very important for New Zealand that Anzus should continue.

Mr Fraser, the Australian Prime Minister, supported Mr Muldoon's views.

Books for Children

Supergauls

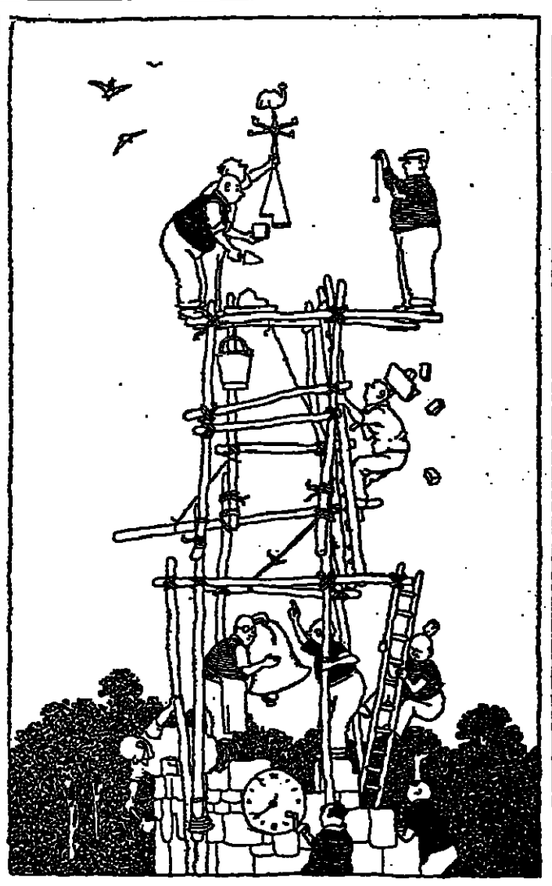
One must be careful how one speaks of Asterix in case—in the next picture but one, as it were—the reviewer's feet should be seen disappearing out of the top of the frame to the accompaniment of a resounding PAFF!

Nevertheless I propose to take the risk and say that in Asterix and the Great Crossing (Hodder, £1.60, hardback) as well as Asterix and the Laurel Wreath (Hodder, 80p, paperback), Goscinny's and Uderzo's Supergauls seem to me a bit below the peak of form represented by, let us say, the Olympic episode or their trip to Spain. Both the present pair of stories are scrappier and short of the brilliant topicality of those earlier ones; and there are no characters to match the neurotic legionary champion who could never hold on to his confidence, or the infernal Spanish infant who would hold *on to his breath*.

So this is workaday Asterix—although that leaves plenty to enjoy in the way of invention: the tourist guide in ancient Rome, for example, whose patter to the Egyptian members of his party is represented by a sudden outburst of hieroglyphics, or the extravagant Danishness of Viking speech, extending even to a longship's shambling Great Dane. Not "Woof", but "WOOF".

Gommaar Timmermans' strip-cartoon books The Little White Hen and The Great Balloon Race (each Methuen, £1.75) are quite a different affair, comparatively so quiet and self-effacing, so understated in words and pictures that at first one is inclined to undervalue them. However they linger, as quiet people so often do, and one remembers the endearing silliness of the little white hen and how, entirely by accident, she reconciled the warring Emperors of Russia and of France.

David Wade



Post-war reconstruction pioneered by Heath Robinson. One of the many varied pictures in Storystreet 1, an anthology for young readers (Oxford, £2.95).

Rainbow lights

Oxford University Press have a practice of getting their picture-book artists to produce undistinguished books about fairgrounds and circuses. Brian Wildsmith has a predictable set of animal pictures for *The Circus*, Doreen Roberts has *Tom at the* (boring) *Fair*, and last Christmas Victor Ambrus produced a brash and trivial story about *Mishka* who plays "The Blue Danube" on his violin upside down on the head of an elephant. Now Mr Keeping brings along his contribution and, as always, demands that we revise our expectations.

Wasteground Circus (Oxford, £2.95) is a simple enough book—"story" would suggest something altogether more elaborate. Scott and Wayne go round the fun-fair that parks on the vacant lot where they usually play, and *finish up by going to see the* people and animals that they *had looked* at earlier transformed in the rainbow lights of the circus. And when the circus departs, the wasteground reverts to its own bleak self: "But only for Wayne. It will never be the same again for Scott. He will remember for ever the time the circus came to town and will always see the wasteground as a place where anything can happen."

As with so much of Charles Keeping's work, the drift towards triteness is overcome by the beautifully controlled design. The pictures and the unpretentious text are shaped into unity, the drawing and colouring *adding to* and not simply reflecting events, as the grey wasteground gradually burgeons into gaudy circus. And afterwards, when it resumes its drabness, it is through the use of colour that Mr Keeping carries off his daring venture into the contrasting effects which the circus has had on his two boys.

Brian Alderson

Painful, but funny

Louise Fitzhugh's children in Nobody's Family is Going to Change (Gollancz, £2.80) are quite unrealistically informed and articulate for their years. This should act against their capacity to convince. Amazingly, it doesn't. For all their precocity, her children succeed in remaining children because Miss Fitzhugh's observation of their feelings and doings is wonderfully exact. More than that, it is wonderfully funny—by focusing through a child's eyes, she makes adults enlargements of the bizarre.

Emma Sheridan is fat, black and eleven. Her Afro haircut insists on growing out sideways "reminding her of a bird she had seen in the Bronx Zoo". She eats greedily and guiltily, consoling herself with the thought that you don't have to be beautiful to be the most distinguished woman lawyer in the States. For that is Emma's intention.

Her mother cannot see that *Emma should ever want* more than to be married—as she herself is—to a distinguished lawyer. Mr Sheridan is a man who has broken through all the obstacles that stand in the way of black people rising high in a profession and with the frequent perversity of those who have made it, is quite determined others shouldn't. He tells Emma that women are joke material in the legal profession. He refuses to let his seven-year-old son Willie become a professional dancer, in spite of the fact that the child's feet can't *keep still for a second, because* dancing isn't respectable. Dancing's for faggots. Dancing's the background from which he dragged and rescued their poor mother.

Emma tries to draw up a Children's Charter. She joins the Children's Army whose purpose is to rush parents who do awful things to their children. But the Army can't help her because her parents don't *do* dreadful things. They just *are*. It's their attitudes that need a shake and in a remarkable family scene in which she acts as counsel for her brother Willie, she realizes that attitudes can't be changed.

Mr Sheridan knows (and truly believes he knows) what is best for his children. He has worked hard for them, made sacrifices for them, makes decisions in their best interest. The moment when Emma recognizes (as he drones through this major parental address) that he doesn't actually *love* either Willie or herself is as cold and sure and sharp as a knife between the ribs.

Her understanding that only she and Willie can change by *refusing to be moulded by such* attitudes makes the book sound like an incitement to rebellion. If an equal attempt weren't made to understand why the adult mind fossilizes as it does, it would be.

I found it a chastening, painful and very funny book. It should be required reading for all parents who think they know best for their children. For all parents, let's face it.

Jacky Gillott

Romance and research

In 1793, Louis XVI and Marie Antoinette were guillotined. What happened to their son? Kim Chesher's The Fifth Quarter (Hamish Hamilton, £2.60), tells us that he escaped and took refuge in a smuggling inn on the Rye coast. As a romance about spies and counter-spies it is fun to read. But besides getting dates right, a historical novelist needs to have a *feel* for the Past. Kim Chesher has not much of that. Her strangely articulate heroine goes out in a boat with the man she loves. A shot is fired. The boat almost capsizes. "You look quite fetching down there in the water", says the young smuggler. "Oh yes", agrees Jemmy. "The original flotsam and jet*sam." 1815? Never.* But this is the first novel of a 17-year-old girl and as such shows unusual promise.

Mr Robertson's Hundred Pounds, by Ann Lawrence (Kestrel, £3.50) is a much more scholarly tale of espionage. Careful research has gone into this account of a journey across Europe in that period of post Armada malaise when to be Catholic in England and Protestant in Spain was political suicide. Simon is apprentice to a master ship-builder and we really do see the world through his eyes—the eyes of an artist, at the same time a humble boy maturing through adventure. There is so much realistic detail the writing sometimes lacks excitement, but older children should find this an absorbing story. It probes into the complexities of loyalty and tolerance—concepts that troubled thinking Elizabethans as much as we are troubled by them today. The drawings are by Elizabeth Trimby.

Joy Whitby

The old order and the new

Did the Gods exist before all time, or did man create them in his own image, trapping them and using them for his own devious purposes? Who are the creators of destiny? It is seldom that a children's novel concerns itself with such profound themes, yet they are very much at the centre of Peter Dickinson's The Blue Hawk (Gollancz, £2.95).

Tron, the boy with the blue hawk, is training in the priesthood, a powerful body typifying the old order of things, bound by ritual and precedent. Through a curious and significant incident he finds himself the friend of the young King, outward-looking representative of the forces of progress about to challenge the power of the priests. As the struggle between them develops, Tron, *whose personal destiny is* closely linked with that of his country, finds himself the tool of both sides. Though never abandoning his priestly duty as he sees it, he is nevertheless won over by the King's appeals to friendship and his vision of a wider world. He breaks the age-old ritual, and ensures the King's victory. His own victory over conflicting loyalties is not lightly won. Only after months of loneliness, hardship, and danger does he reach a new awareness of himself and the world around him, recognizing the value of the inward as well as the outward journey.

Just as Tron himself spans both, so the narrative moves skilfully between the two: moments of grave speculation are counterpointed in the world of action where events move swiftly to their climax, incidents are vividly described, and battle scenes are graphic in their detail. Set in a period and landscape closely resembling, though never positively identified as, that of Ancient Egypt, the book's portrayal of a remote hieratic society could easily be as far in the future as the past, and the arid inhospitable landscape of rocks and desert which bound the river an evocation of some *imagined planet*.

Judith Vidal Hall

Brutal realism

In this last volume of his war trilogy, The Time of the Young Soldiers, translated by Anthea Bell (Kestrel, £2.50), we follow Hans Peter Richter's progress through the ranks of the German army. He records, in *the same disjointed style* which we saw in his earlier books, *Friedrich* and *I Was There*, the means by which a sensitive teenage recruit is degraded to an uncritical fighting machine. In short and bloody course he becomes an officer—minus an arm, but with illusions intact.

His telling is spare and unreflecting—these things happened, he can say no more than that. Each abrupt episode is rattled off, and before meaning can intrude we are in another *place and time. If these vivid* and brutal sketches need a common theme it is to be found not in the growth of a personality but in the inexorable decline of German military fortune.

Mr Richter has been long in coming to terms with himself, and but for a gratuitous lapse of taste—or would we say discretion today?—we could respect his intentions in publishing the fact. But he wants children to know how to remove a bayonet from a man's belly: if it gets stuck, kick him in the balls—that'll shift it! It might be said that such realism serves the cause of anti-war and is therefore good; but there is much more to war than fighting, and set against the coy-bravado with which the occasional sexual skirmishes are related this incident is quite obscene. It is a pity to see such an effective, controlled revelation marred by a hap'orth of sensationalism.

Allan Morrison

Putting family first

"A work of fiction, not of forecasting", says John Rowe Townsend by way of preface to Noah's Castle (Oxford, £3.25) his gloomy picture of our immediate future. The fierce arithmetic progressions of inflation have cut loose (half way through the book sardines stand at £200 a tin and four-page news-sheets at £50 an issue) and, in face of the consequent shortages, the Government finds only a crop of nourishing slogans to assist the ailing population. Far-sighted Mr Norman Mortimer, however, has prepared himself for events. While hardly a very sympathetic Dad, he has none the less "put family first", and has bought a large house with a basement and stowed away enough provisions to last for what—old Army man that he is—he thinks of as The Duration.

The life of a hoarder in such hard times though is not an easy one, especially with a somewhat disaffected family at one's elbow and sundry rogues and bullies outside ready for blackmail. "Noah's Castle" ("it should be Norman's Castle really", says Dad), is besieged by force from without and conscience from within and by the end of the book the family are left like everyone else dependent only upon the hopes of a New Pound and International Rescue.

It is a theme with (paradoxically) a wealth of potential but one which Mr Townsend handles with an unconvincing mildness. His eye for the trappings of inflation is good (he refurbishes, for instance, the Weimar anecdote of the washing-basket full of money—where the basket is stolen and the notes left to blow around the pavement) but he takes altogether too generous a view of the social consequences, both at personal and national level. In his powerful *The Intruder* of 1969 he showed himself to be a writer capable of penetrating the darker recesses of human behaviour, but on the vastly more demanding scale of *Noah's Castle* he manages to suggest only a community of cads and libbers playing at self-destruction.

Brian Alderson

Dreadful jokes

Two fantasies: Captain Cobwebb and the Chinese Unicorn by Gordon Boshell, and Danny Dunn, Scientific Detective, by Jay Williams and Raymond Abrashkin (Macdonald, £2.75 and £2.25) both one of a long series (six Captain Cobwebb's, 11 Danny Dunns) in which the formula is fairly well established, particularly for the *aficionado*. David and Toby have an uncle, Septimus Cobwebb, who disappeared when he was a boy, but gets mysteriously in touch inviting them to an adventure which starts, practically enough, by putting on all their warmest clothes and jumping into the clouds (easy: stand on your head and jump *upwards*) and from then on it's a roller-coaster of an adventure, with dog sleds and the clash of ice-floes and icebergs in hot pursuit of Sir Gregory Grabb, the Wickedest Man in the World, who is after the sacred unicorn of China and the last remaining Yeti.

Dreadful jokes and catch phrases abound—Chinese bandits and wise men infest the scene, and the only female interest is a cat called Me Yao who, though Chinese, speaks English with a Cockney accent—cats being notoriously unable to negotiate the vowel sound "o"—a pleasant conceit. A fearful danger appears regularly once a chapter—and it's all a lot of fun.

Danny Dunn and his two friends Irene Miller and Joe Pearson are more rooted in the mundane—in this case a small mid-American town of Midston, you can't get much more mundane than that—but they have in their lives the eccentric and brilliant Professor Euclid Bullfinch (called to Washington on a high level conference with You Know Who for most of the story) and Danny's Mother, who is liable to look at him with the well-known *I Know You're Not Telling Me the Whole Truth* expression. The children, with the help of one of the Professor's scientific experiments and an old vacuum cleaner, track down a thief—and make something of a mess of things at the same time. It all *seems* quite possible even to the totally non-scientific mind, like Joe Pearson's (and mine). And it manages to explain the theoretical basis of the scientific method into the bargain, without committing the sin of condescending to the reader. As Joe says "If he pats me on the head, I'll bite him."

Philippa Toomey

Squalid triumphs

Both these stories concern youth and violence, but with no further resemblance. Geoffrey Household's Escape into Daylight (Bodley Head, £2.50) is straightforward adventure in which a boy gets accidentally involved in the kidnapping of a filmstar's young daughter. Murder threatens when the ransom is not paid. They contrive an ingenious and hazardous escape from a remote underground prison, only to encounter armed encirclement and pursuit. The boy has countryman's ruses and dowser's hands. The girl has learnt from her quarrelsome parents how to watch and assess adults. They make a capable pair. Their tactics, risks, set-backs are convincingly described with precisely observed details, by a very professional craftsman working within the tradition of breathless hazards melting into happy endings.

Not so in S. E. Hinton's short, brisk Rumble Fish (Gollancz, £2.50) (oriental fighting fish, aptly chosen) which could have been dictated by a semi-illiterate teenager, though with shrewdness, alarming candour, and totally unsentimental instants of wistfulness and perplexity. He inhabits an area of drugs, maimings, casual street killings, in which his school basket-ball coach may bribe him to smash up a fellow pupil. His language is not standard middle class: "You fight some cat who's been washing down bennies with sneaky Pete and they can't tell if you kill 'em". A gang leader, when gangs are declining because of drugs, he trails in the aura of his elder brother, a disillusioned loner and motor-cycle thief whose aloof, supercilious sophistication perhaps disguises mental abnormality.

The narrator's squalid triumphs and brutal background give continuous small revelations that transform him from a callous lout to a sad, inglorious victim pitifully lacking his brother's ambiguous class, though with marginally more hope. The strong talent in the author's two previous books is amply confirmed here.

Peter Vansittart

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SPORT

Football



Kindon raises Wolves' hopes by outjumping Greenhoff to head his team into an early lead.

United use a return ticket to the past to ride on into the future

By Geoffrey Green
Football Correspondent

Wolverhampton 2 Manchester U 3

After one of the most compelling, eventful and punishing FA Cup ties I have seen for many a day, Manchester United won this sixth round replay against Wolverhampton Wanderers at Molineux last night and will now meet Derby County in the semi-final round at Hillsborough on April 3. Having seen Birmingham City, Aston Villa and West Bromwich Albion all knocked out of the competition in their time this season, the circle was now completed with the departure of the Wolves. But my goodness what a match it was.

It was a return ticket to the past —to 1966 when United were two goals to the bad and eventually won 4—2 through the genius of Best, Charlton and Law. Last night again they were two goals down, both of them scored within a couple of minutes by Kindon and then Richards midway through the opening half. But United in their youth are unable to recognise the obvious. Most other sides would have taken that as read. But not these young men of Manchester. In their way they have the spirit and the daredevil quality of the fighter pilots of the last war.

Never for one moment did they flinch. Right from the start they had attacked; they attacked all through and they were attacking at the end and indeed might have scored twice more in the last 10 minutes of extra-time. So now United have still their eyes on the League and Cup double and what a semi-final it should be with Derby. As for poor Wolves, brave but finally outclassed last night, they are now left to fight off the shadows of relegation.

In those two minutes when Wolves took the lead first it was Kindon—always a powerful front runner, strong, clean-limbed, and fast—who beat Greenhoff in the air to head home Parkin's centre from the left for the opener. Almost at once Wolves were two up. Again it was Kindon who beat Greenhoff on the turn to the right, centred deep to the far post and there was Richards pulling the ball down from his chest to shoot into the roof of Stepney's net. Later on, deep into the second half, Kindon again crashed a left-foot shot against United's upright and that would have made it 3—1; but it was not to be. Following this Parkin, from some 40 yards, also hit an upright. But Wolverhampton's luck, which had stood them in good stead at Old Trafford, now deserted them as United came back at them like a ceaseless red wave of attack. Inch by inch Manchester caught up.

With 10 minutes to half-time and Macari off the field with a groin injury, replaced by Nicholl, Greenhoff, now playing in midfield, headed on a corner kick by Hill from the right, an inswinger. From Greenhoff's forehead the ball bobbed on to the head of McIlroy and there was Pearson finally to nod it in. There it stood at half-time.

Leading by 15 corners to two, United's attack was endless but with a quarter of an hour left they were still 2—1 behind. At that point Coppell, breaking fast on the right wing—as Hill had done all night on the left—burst to the byline, McIlroy flicked his cross into the goalmouth and there was Greenhoff to slam in the equalizer: 2—2. There were chances to McIlroy and then the irrepressible Hill that would have saved any extra-time as Bailey replaced Daley in midfield. With minutes to go to the extra period McAlle turned another low centre from Coppell on to his post and Wolves escaped once more.

The guillotine seemed bound to drop and it did midway through the first period of the extension. Again it was a centre by Coppell that drew the Wolves' defence apart and there was McIlroy, quick as a rapier, to turn in the winner. So ended a match full of surprise and suspense, like some detective thriller. Manchester United are like the sort of polish that does not take scratches. Perhaps only Derby could have escaped from such a deep hole last night. United certainly have the knack of survival and Wolves, for all their powerful long game and the thrust of Kindon, in the end lacked the same gift of expression.

United were original and vigorous with their technical accomplishment and deadly with their accuracy of approach. Those who would shrug them aside will find them uncommonly hard to shift from their pinnacle. At the heart of their effort was the sweeping attack of their wingers, Hill and Coppell, orchestrated by the wily service of McIlroy and Daly. All through their game unwound like a tape machine on a prescribed course. They lit up automatically like one of those electric toys which respond to a particular sound. All the time one felt they were keeping something up their sleeves and in the end Wolverhampton, for all their spirit and long counter-attacks, were not their equal. The right side are at Hillsborough.

WOLVERHAMPTON WANDERERS: P. Parkes; A. Sunderland, D. Parkin, S. Daley (sub, M. Bailey), F. Munro, J. McAlle, K. Hibbitt, W. Carr, S. Kindon, R. Gould, J. Richards.
MANCHESTER UNITED: A. Stepney; A. Forsyth, S. Houston, G. Daly, B. Greenhoff, M. Buchan, S. Coppell, S. McIlroy, S. Pearson, L. Macari (sub, J. Nicholl), G. Hill.
Referee: P. Partridge (Durham).

Leeds cling inelegantly to title chances

By Keith Macklin

Leeds Utd 1 West Ham Utd 1

Leeds United cling to outside hopes of another championship as tenaciously as barnacles to a ship's side, and with as little style. If Leeds eventually scramble their way to the title, and on current form it is unlikely, it will be a triumph of dogged application rather than free-flowing skill. The position at the top is:

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
QP Rangers	34	17	11	6	51	26	45
Liverpool	33	15	13	5	49	27	43
Manchstr U	32	17	9	6	51	29	43
Derby Co	33	17	9	7	53	42	43
Leeds Utd	32	16	8	8	49	33	40

In last night's match at Elland Road, West Ham United, who had not won away from home since November, took a goal presented to them by sluggish defence. When Jordan equalized for Leeds it was a surprise to all, so badly had Leeds played, and so rarely had the West Ham defence seemed in danger.

The visitors, after issuing sickness bulletins detailing an alleged influenza epidemic, turned out quite a representative side, though without Brooking, McDowell and Lock. If Leeds anticipated a comfortable win against a side without success for eight matches, they soon disillusioned themselves. Attacks broke down almost as soon as they began, passes were woefully misplaced, and Leeds showed that casualness of approach which irritates even their staunchest supporters. Twenty minutes had passed before Leeds caused the slightest trouble to the West Ham defence, and then Jordan stole unobserved into the six-yard box to head past Day and an upright.

West Ham might well have taken the lead in their swift breakaways. The difference between the two sides' approaches was illustrated when Ayris sprinted past the struggling Yorath and Alan Taylor brought a desperate save from Harvey. A fine free kick from Lampard also stretched the Leeds goalkeeper.

The constipated state of the Leeds attack was so evident that the manager, Jimmy Armfield, sent on the substitute, Eddie Gray, to replace Reaney. Early in the second half Leeds, who were degenerating from bad to awful, suffered a thoroughly deserved setback. Ayris again seized upon a defensive error to slip the ball forward to Jennings. The centre forward slipped between the leaden-footed challenges of Cherry and Madeley to touch the ball past Harvey.

A justly merited victory seemed on the cards for West Ham, and Leeds seemed beaten. It was a totally unexpected event when the home side equalized. A Bates corner created a scramble in the West Ham penalty area and Jordan showed a rare moment of speed of thought and action as he turned to shoot past Day.

Leeds pressed for a winner against a West Ham defence, which lost composure and looked as vulnerable as in many recent away games. However, speed, skill and penetration are lacking in a side badly missing Lorimer and Bremner, and one point is as much as Leeds deserved.

LEEDS UNITED: D. Harvey; P. Reaney (sub E. Gray), F. Gray, M. Bates, P. Madeley, N. Hunter, D. McKenzie, A. Clarke, J. Jordan, T. Yorath, T. Cherry.
WEST HAM UNITED: M. Day; K. Coleman, F. Lampard, W. Bonds, T. Taylor, A. Taylor, J. Ayris (sub, G. Pike), G. Paddon, W. Jennings, A. Curbishley, K. Robson.
Referee: P. Willis (Meadowfield, co Durham).

Palace's final emotion is one of disappointment

By Norman de Mesquita

Crystal P 2 Port Vale 2

Crystal Palace experienced a wide range of emotions at Selhurst Park last night, ranging from euphoria to disappointment by way of elation and frustration. They were greeted rapturously by their supporters and applauded onto the field by their opponents as a tribute to their FA Cup performances. They gained an early lead, soon conceded an equaliser and missed several opportunities before regaining the lead. But a late equaliser deprived them of their just reward.

Without a home league win since the end of November, Palace needed an early goal to avoid the tension and frustration that arise when winning is so important. Their early goal was a fine effort by Chatterton after Evans headed on Hinshelwood's corner. It took Port Vale only three minutes to draw level when Cullerton volleied home Tartt's header and Hammond—one of Saturday's heroes—could do nothing to stop it.

Palace then lost Hinshelwood with a leg injury and had a series of near misses in a period of incisive football which had Port Vale looking distinctly groggy. They resorted to some dubious tactics and it was from a free kick that Palace scored their second goal. Taylor took the kick out on the right, Jump headed it on and Swindlehurst guided it gently inside the far post with the most delicate of headers.

The second half started as the first finished, with Palace pressing and constantly threatening to score. But with Taylor having to play deep after the departure of Hinshelwood, there was a lack of the usual width to their attack. For 15 minutes the game faded until Taylor started to come forward more and Palace threatened again.

As so often happens, though, a goal came at the other end. It was a scrambling affair, the ball eventually going in off Tartt's knees. Palace protested and it did look as though at least one Port Vale forward was offside. To add to Palace's problems, Wall went off for treatment but he returned in time to head on a Holder corner and cause untold panic in the Port Vale goalmouth. But the winning goal would not come and another crucial home point slipped away.

Had Palace shown as much urgency early in the second half as they did in their final fruitless assault, they might have won easily. They certainly played all the football and would grace the second division next season. But first they have to climb out of the third and, without a home win for over three months, they are not making it easy for themselves.

CRYSTAL PALACE: P. Hammond; P. Wall, S. Jump, P. Holder, D. Jeffries, I. Evans, N. Chatterton, M. Hinshelwood (sub D. Kemp), A. Whittle, D. Swindlehurst, P. Taylor.
PORT VALE: J. Connaughton; C. Tartt, N. Griffiths, J. Ridley, T. Lees, B. Horton, R. Williams, G. Dulson (sub T. McLaren), M. Cullerton, T. Bailey, D. Brownbill.
Referee: D. T. Richardson (Lincoln).

Mullery misses penalty

Fulham 1 Southampton 0

Fulham ended a run of three successive defeats by winning 1—0 at Craven Cottage against the FA Cup semi finalists Southampton.

The goal came in the eighth minute from the head of Mitchell who took advantage of misunderstanding in the Southampton defence.

This was Southampton's third defeat in London this season and a cruel blow to their promotion prospects. They had deserved a better fate for their attacking football but for all their goalmouth pressure the ball would not go into the net.

Alan Mullery, who collected his MBE from Buckingham Palace in the morning, marred his big day by missing a penalty in the 43rd minute after McCalliog had handled. The referee Michael Taylor (Deal) took the name of Jim Conway for protesting after a Busby disallowed goal in the 48th minute.

Haywood may be back

Shrewsbury's striker, Haywood, is set to return for tonight's promotion clash at Brighton, his first full game since he broke his nose at Crystal Palace two months ago. Haywood wins back his place from Kearney, who is dropped from the team which ended an 11-match unbeaten run at Chester last Saturday.

Sivell out of action

Laurie Sivell, the Ipswich goalkeeper who received severe facial injuries against Aston Villa on Saturday, has been confined to his home for several days. Sivell needed 10 stitches in his mouth and lost four teeth after a collision with Gray, of Villa, and now seems certain to be out of next Saturday's game against Stoke.

Curtis for Wales after brief apprenticeship

Alan Curtis, Swansea City's 21-year-old midfield player, could win his first full Welsh cap after only 15 minutes of representative football.

The Welsh manager, Michael Smith, has chosen Curtis in a party of 16 for the centenary international against England at Wrexham on March 24—a month after being given his first under-23 appearance in the 75th minute of the defeat by Scotland.

Smallman, of Everton, is the only player missing from the side who swept Wales into the European championship quarter-final round by defeating Austria at the Racecourse Ground last November.

Smallman is still recovering from a shoulder injury, but his absence is countered by the return of Toshack, Liverpool's leading scorer, who missed the Austrian match through suspension.

The other changes are the inclusion of Page, Birmingham City, and Curtis, of Swansea, instead of Harris (Leeds) and Lewis (Grimsby Town).

League leaders reinforced by signing of Eastoe

Queen's Park Rangers, the current first division leaders, yesterday reinforced their challenge for the League championship by signing Peter Eastoe, of Swindon Town. It was the second part of a deal which last week took Don Rogers back to Swindon from Loftus Road.

Rogers was valued at £33,000 when he signed last Friday. Yesterday Rangers paid £50,000 for Eastoe, a 22-year-old who cost £80,000 when he was transferred from Wolverhampton Wanderers two seasons ago. Eastoe was the Football League's joint top scorer last season with 31 goals. This year he has scored eight in the league and three in cup games.

His record at Swindon is 43 goals in 91 appearances. Dave Sexton, his new manager, sees him as valuable support for his team's striking power as they go into the last stages of the season, leading Liverpool, Manchester United and Derby County by two points.

Jim Cumbes, a goalkeeper with Aston Villa and a cricketer with Worcestershire, is breaking off his connexion with both sports in this country to go to America. Villa have given free transfers to Cumbes and a midfield player, Pat McMahon.

They will be released from their present contracts next Monday. Both players have plans to join their former manager at Villa, Vic Crowe, currently the manager of Portland Timbers in the North American League.

Leicester City have agreed terms for the transfer of Alan Birchenall to Notts County for a fee of £20,000. Jimmy Bloomfield, the manager, said: "Birchenall will go on a month's loan and if everybody is happy, he will stay with Notts County". Bloomfield is expecting Fulham to offer £20,000 for Steve Earle and Mansfield have inquired about Leicester's third transfer-listed player, Graham Cross.

Cardiff City are willing to give Gil Reece, a Welsh international, a free transfer. Reece, who played 29 times for Wales, started his career with Cardiff.

Hockey

Sweet fulfilment achieved with some difficulty

By Sydney Friskin

Civil Service 2 Army 0

It had long been a Civil Service ambition to beat all three sections of the armed forces in one hockey season. The hour of sweet fulfilment arrived yesterday at Chiswick where they suppressed a spirited challenge by the Army. Civil Service had beaten the Royal Navy 7—0 and the Royal Air Force 3—1.

Considering the Army's poor record this season they did well to restrict the opposition to a goal in each half. Northern talent in the Civil Service side, however, was put to good use with the Scottish internationals, Sutherland and Stobbie, scoring both goals and stamping their class all over the game. But even they did not find the going easy.

Civil Service might have scored three more goals, but the Army could have scored at least two, having shown more life in their attack, even without Chetwood, than Civil Service probably expected. It was in defence that the Army were seen to the best advantage. Tackling and covering superbly they dissolved many a Civil Service attack in the first half. Conspicuous in this line of action were Cornock, hastily sent into action because Goodwin could not arrive in time, Sandy and Havlin.

It was the Army who had the first chance after a brisk opening assault with Dewar hitting over the top from a centre by Soulter. Watson went through at the other end and although the advantage rule was judiciously applied he was deprived of a shot at goal by Cornock. In the eighth minute, however, Civil Service went ahead. After Sutherland had backpassed to Stobbie, a foot on the line led to a penalty stroke which was brilliantly converted by Sutherland.

For the greater part of the first half, play was confined to the Army's half. A sudden breakthrough by their right flank in the twenty-first minute nearly led to a goal with Jarrett-Kerr chipping wide of a post. Off Civil Service's second short corner, earned as late as the thirty-third minute, a shot by Sutherland rose off a stick and struck the crossbar.

A first-minute thrill was provided by the Army in the second half with Ferguson breaking through and passing to Smith whose shot was cleared off the line by Procter who had a good game for Civil Service at left half. As often happens when a goal is missed at one end, one was scored at the other. Sutherland and Batchelor set up a chance for Stobbie who scored with a lovely angular shot in the fourth minute.

Civil Service missed two more chances with Watson scooping over the crossbar from a pass by Sutherland and Cornock saving on the line from a strong hit by Sutherland from a short corner. The award was made for an infringement in a scramble after the Army goalkeeper had saved from Ellis. The Army's last gesture of defiance came from a shot by Boulter who struck the outside of the boards.

CIVIL SERVICE: J. Kilgour (Harris Academy Former Pupils); J. Browne (Tulse Hill), M. Hodge (Bedfordshire Eagles), J. Brindley (Slough, captain), D. W. Batchelor (Grange), J. Procter (Wimbledon), P. Ellis (Bedfordshire Eagles), A. Stobbie (Edinburgh CS), C. Sutherland (Edinburgh CS), A. Watson (Beckenham), A. Mayo (Teddington).
ARMY: Col A. D. Watts (RAOC); Maj W. Cornock (7th Para, RHA), Lt A. D. Morris (REME), Capt R. J. Sandy (RE), Pte R. G. Craig (REME), Lt G. C. M. Jarrett-Kerr (RE), Sgt P. Havlin (Royal Signals), Capt K. A. Boulter (RAEC), Sgt G. R. Ferguson (RAOC), Capt V. T. M. Smith (RA, captain), Capt J. G. T. Dewar (Royal Hampshire).
Umpires: L. Clarke (Southern Counties) and R. Rickett (Combined Services).

Rackets

Cambridge fail to win even one game

By a Special Correspondent

Oxford completed a clean sweep over Cambridge in the university match at Queen's Club yesterday when Alan Lovell won his match against Mark Nicholls by the convincing margin of 15—3, 17—14, 15—3. Indeed, Oxford won without conceding a game.

Lovell was seriously challenged only in the second game when Nicholls played his best shots of the match. Nicholls's main strength is his forehand but even though he hit some sweet shots, the stroke was not consistent enough to trouble Lovell.

Lovell made his intentions clear from the early points of the first game when he opened with a run of six. Nicholls reduced the deficit to 7—3 but Lovell strung eight points together to win the game. Erratic serving by both players at the start of the second game disguised Lovell's continued dominance but he quickly established a 7—2 lead. His backhand remained as solid as ever and withstood Nicholls's powerful hitting.

Serving well, Nicholls pulled back to 14—14 but Lovell clinched the game at 17—14. Having overcome his only crisis of the match, Lovell then used his deep, penetrating serve to build up a 10—0 lead in the third game. Nicholls duly wilted under such pressure but did well to keep his opponent to 15—3.

Earlier, Oxford had taken a 2—0 lead in the match when Robin Hollington defeated Cambridge's Christopher Hopton, 16—13, 15—19, 15—7. Hopton did well to recover a 13—7 deficit in the first game but Hollington's serve proved the matchwinner.

RESULTS: Oxford beat Cambridge, 3—0. R. M. Hollington (Haileybury and University) beat C. J. Hopton (Harrow and Jesus), 16—13, 15—9, 15—7; A. C. Lovell (Winchester and Jesus) beat M. W. Nicholls (Malvern and Magdalene), 15—3, 17—14, 15—3.

Yesterday's results

FA Cup

Sixth round replay

Wolves (2) 2 Man United (1) 3
Kindon, Richards — Pearson, Greenhoff, McIlroy
49,000
After extra time. Winners to meet Derby County.

First division

Leeds (0) 1 West Ham (0) 1
Jordan — Jennings
28,453

Second division

Fulham (1) 1 Southamptn (0) 0
Mitchell
8,731

Third division

Bury v Colchester
Postponed.
C Palace (2) 2 Port Vale (1) 2
Chatterton, Swindlehurst — Cullerton, Tartt
Grimsby T (1) 1 Walsall (0) 2
Partridge — Dennehy, Taylor
4,942
Halifax (0) 1 Gillingham (1) 1
G. Jones — Knight
1,886
Preston (2) 3 Chesterfield (0) 1
Elwiss, Bruce (2) — Cammack
4,621
Swindon (1) 1 Rotherham (1) 1
Rogers — Crawford
9,866

Leading positions

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Hereford	32	19	7	6	59	37	45
Brighton	34	19	3	12	60	38	41
Crystal Palace	34	14	12	8	51	34	40
Cardiff	34	15	9	10	55	42	39
Shrewsbury	32	16	7	9	44	35	39
Walsall	[illegible]	15	4	13	58	47	[illegible]
Wrexham	35	14	10	11	46	39	38
Port Vale	35	13	11	11	45	37	37

Fourth division

Barnsley (1) 2 Bournemth (0) 0
Brown, Felton — 2,550
Doncaster (0) 0 Northamptn (1) 4
8,737 — Stratford (2), McGowan (2)
Exeter (0) 1 Rochdale (0) 0
Morris — 3,102
Huddersfld (2) 2 Workington (0) 0
Hughes (og), Lawson — 5,010
Swansea C (2) 2 Lincoln C (1) 2
Thomas, Curtis — Branfoot, Ward
4,000

Scottish Cup

Fifth round replay

Hearts (0) 2 Montrose (2) 2
Shaw, Gibson — Barr (pen), Johnstone
After extra time.

Scottish Second division

Cowdenbth (0) 3 Stenhsmr (0) 1
McHale, Murphy, Hunter — Simpson

SOUTHERN LEAGUE: Premier division: Atherstone 1, Dover 0; Wimbledon 3, Hillingdon 2. First division (North): Corby 0, Worcester 1. South: Romford 2, Dorchester 1.

ATHENIAN LEAGUE: First division: Redhill 0, Egham 4.

ISTHMIAN LEAGUE: First division: Sutton 0, Tooting and Mitcham 3.

NORTHERN PREMIER LEAGUE: Buxton 1, Northwich Victoria 2; Goole 5, Fleetwood 0.

RUGBY LEAGUE: First division: Dewsbury 6, St Helens 7.

HOCKEY: Representative match: Civil Service 2, Army 0.

Today's fixtures

Kick-off 7.30 unless stated.

Third division

Brighton v Shrewsbury Town (7.45).
Hereford United v Chester.
Peterborough v Sheffield Wednesday.

Fourth division

Bradford City v Southport.
Hartlepool v Crewe (7.15).
Torquay v Tranmere.

Scottish Cup, fifth round replay

Hibernian v Motherwell.

Scottish Spring Cup, first round

Berwick v Kilmarnock.
Dumbarton v Albion Rovers.
Raith v Queen of South.

SOUTHERN LEAGUE CUP: Semi-final round, second leg: Kettering v Yeovil.

SOUTHERN LEAGUE: Premier division: Weymouth v Nuneaton. First division (north): Bury Town v Tamworth; King's Lynn v Barry; Cheltenham v Stevenage.

INTER-SERVICES CHAMPIONSHIP: Army v Royal Navy (at Aldershot, 2.30).

RUGBY UNION: UAU final: Swansea University v University of Wales (at Twickenham, 3.0). Hospitals Cup final: St Bartholomews v London (at Richmond, 3.0). Club matches: Abertillery v Glamorgan Wanderers (7.0); Bridgwater and Albion v Somerset Police; Cardiff v Bridgend; Cheltenham v Gloucester (3.0); Llanelli v British Columbia (7.15); Nottingham v Nuneaton; Saracens v London University (3.0); Swansea v Newbridge (7.0). Polytechnics Cup final: Wales v Liverpool (at Old Deer Park, 3.0).

RUGBY LEAGUE: First division: Hull KR v Salford.

HOCKEY: London League: Cambridge University v Slough (2.30); Oxford University v St Albans (2.30).

Rugby Union

How Swansea's chance appears to a knowledgeable observer

By Peter West
Rugby Correspondent

There is no keeping Wales out of the current rugby spotlight and this afternoon, at Twickenham, University College, Swansea, and UWIST meet in the first all-Welsh final of the UAU championship, sponsored by Watney Mann. There is a modest English representation (three) in the Swansea XV and five, as well as one Ulsterman, in the colours of UWIST, which stands for University of Wales Institute of Science and Technology.

UWIST are the team who beat Loughborough, champions for the past three years, by 15 pts to 11 in the semi-final round. On the face of this result it appears that UWIST should be favourites today, but that is not how it appears to one knowledgeable observer at Durham University, whose XV lost 9—3 to Swansea in the round of the last eight. Swansea subsequently beat Bristol 16—9. "My money", says Ian Graham, the Durham Registrar, "would be firmly on Swansea, though UWIST probably has the better backs. It will be a good pack that beats the Swansea one."

UWIST accepted their chances well against Loughborough, who, they admit, to have been the better side. Gareth Davies, the Cardiff stand-off half who was a reserve for Wales against England at Twickenham, and whose style of play evokes certain echoes of Barry John, kicked three dropped goals that day. Earlier in the season UWIST inflicted on Swansea their only defeat in the present championship. That was by 12—6 in a Welsh division game.

May, the Swansea University lock, who stands 6ft 5½in and weighs 16st, played for Llanelli against the Australians and has had a senior Welsh national trial. Both the props, Lewis and Jones, and the No 8, Lee, now enjoying the seventh year in college, have played for British universities. Jones, then aged 18, was in the last Swansea side to contest this final, in 1973.

UWIST have been obliged to make a late change at prop, where Havard, who has an attack of mumps, is replaced by Prickett. Their front five look to be yielding quite a lot in weight but their loose trio is reputed to be a lively one.

It seems regrettable that this contest should clash in London with the British Polytechnics' final (Polytechnic of Wales v Portsmouth) at Old Deer Park and with the Hospitals' Cup final at Richmond. The UAU appears, are not pleased that Polytechnics should have arranged their final on the same day, the climax of the UAU championship was listed officially from the season's outset. This is the sort of clash that the new higher education advisory panel will have to sort out in future.

This season's match between British and French universities was called off for the want of financial support. The RFU mounted a rescue operation and should ensure that this competition is resumed next year. The teams for today's UAU final are:

UNIVERSITY COLLEGE SWANSEA: K. Hopkins (Maesteg GS); J. ... (Abertillery GS), J. Fielden (Ado... Doncaster), T. Jones (Llandov...), K. Dennis (Upholland GS); J. ...liams (Monmouth), A. J. Mu... (Imber Bourne); R. Lewis (Cw... GS), B. Light (The Lewis School, Pengam), W. Jones (Llanelli GS), ... Smith (Cowley GS), P. May (Ll... GS), A. Morgan (Abersychan GS), ... Lee (Cathays HS, Cardiff), J. ... (Cardiff HS).

UWIST: S. James (Penarth GS); S. Jones (Pontypridd GS), N. ... (Cynffig CS), J. Bracey (Cwmry CS), R. Williams (Rydal); G. D... (Gwendraeth GS), M. Conner (G... shill School); P. Doolin (St Illtyd's College, Cardiff), J. Williams (... tic College), P. Prickett (Maidstone GS), H. Jones (Bromsgrove), ... Knight (Maidstone GS), P. Polidore (St Brendan's College), D. Darnell (King Edward VII, Lytham), D. Smyth (... raine Academy).
Referee.—R. F. Johnson (London).

Kickers to be cynosure of thousand eyes

By Gordon Allan

St Bartholomew's make three changes and London two for the final of the Hospitals Cup rugby competition at Richmond today. In St Bartholomew's team Bonn moves from centre to right wing to the exclusion of Goddard, Boyle returns at centre and Fitzpatrick replaces Scott at lock forward. London choose Holman instead of Musgrave at centre and Chidwick replaces Murday, who is injured, at prop.

It should be a close game. London probably have more individual strength—Young and Szypryt in the pack, Williams and Condon behind it—and they prevented the holders, Westminster, from scoring a try on a dry day in the semi-final round. St Bartholomew's think their strength on the wings might be decisive, especially with Boyle to set them up. Boyle, a former Army centre, is in his first year.

Close games tend to be settled, however, by the ability (or lack of it) to kick goals. If that turns out to be the case, Powell and Frame for St Bartholomew's and Lockyer for London will be the cynosure of a thousand eyes. It is six years since St Bartholomew's won the cup, eight since London won it.

LONDON HOSPITAL: M. Lockyer; R. Linden-Kelly, J. Longstreet, R. Holman, B. Whitmill; H. Condon, M. Williams; S. Young, S. Wandless, D. Chidwick, R. Hoare, M. Gibson, G. de Belder, P. Szypryt, G. Wells.
ST BARTHOLOMEW'S HOSPITAL: J. Powell; S. Bonn, N. Dunn, D. Boyle, R. Miller; J. Frame, C. Milford; D. Badenoch, B. Marion, M. Dobenham, A. Fitzpatrick, P. Cooper, I. Wright, P. Gough, J. Kaye.

American pressure on Bank of England

By Peter Marson

Bank of England 9 Virginia 10

The Virginian No 8 Vander Castle, stood at the centre of an ecstatic American celebration when his try crowned the last movement of the match with the Bank of England at Roehampton yesterday. If Virginia's joy spilled over, then that was understandable for they had been behind throughout until the last minute when a flowing movement and vander Castle's try signalled a notable triumph for Virginia by a try and two penalty goals to two penalty goals and a dropped goal.

This was the second game of their 14-day tour—they had lost to Hertford by a try to a penalty goal on Sunday last—and after last evening's banquet at Roehampton they expect to step off their plane at Orly at noon today and put two sides into the field against Neuilly-sur-Marne in the afternoon. Virginia then wind up their tour with five games in Guernsey. By then their hope must be that they can discover a way of splicing the dedication and enthusiasm of their forwards to a healthy optimism and a certain dash among the backs.

When Virginia's half backs and three-quarters ran with the ball it was fascinating and refreshing, too, to note the competence with which they performed simple skills. Their direct, uncluttered approach made greater sense and carried a greater threat than that of their opponents, who time and again lost themselves and eventually possession of the ball as they sought to baffle and bewilder in complicated ploys.

If the bank's weakness lay here, then Virginia's was with their inability to match the slickness of the bank's forwards in hustling the ball away from the rucks and mauls. Virginia's forwards were constantly penalized in these areas, and it was as well for them that Rees, the bank's stand-off half and captain, succeeded with only two from eight attempts to place penalty goals.

Either side of two excellent penalty goals by Virginia's captain, Hoopes, Rees seemed to have settled the matter with a beautifully taken dropped goal from ... yards out. Yet, Virginia, who ... always looked promising with ... ball out among the backs, ... brought one movement to fruition. From the left flank at half ... Williams put Krebs away and ... Coffman entering the line ... full back, a splendid run ... passing ended when ... Castle looped outside the left ... Mitchell, to dive for his score ... the left corner flag.

BANK OF ENGLAND: P. W. ...; R. M. Beales, M. R. Cresswell, ... Ball, S. M. Leaman; R. J. ..., C. M. Evans; I. Peacock, K. C. ..., N. R. Goound, J. G. O. Far..., Cox, J. E. Marks, R. A. White, ... Carlile.
VIRGINIA: S. Coffman; J. ...son, C. Hoopes, F. von Lewin..., Mitchell; M. Krebs, B. Willia...; Dalgleish, Y. Tourre, M. Lancaster, Ford, S. Warren, G. Carter, L. ..., Castle, T. Watkins.
Referee: C. R. Shaw (London).

Olympic Games

Sweet smell of money for five sports

By Neil Allen

Weightlifting, judo, yachting, cycling and modern pentathlon may not like being called "minor" Olympic sports but, compared with athletics, swimming and, perhaps, gymnastics (thanks to la Korbut), they do not get the full focus of the media nor, often, the financial backing which they so desperately need.

Good news, therefore, to hear that Faberge Incorporated are to sponsor, to the sweet smelling tune of £20,000, those sports through competitive events. My own conviction, after covering five summer Olympics for *The Times*, is that the present programme of sports should be halved—with the institution of a spring as well as a summer Games. But since the International Olympic Committee obstinately stay with the present top heavy programme then it is only fair that all should get some support.

The order of the fixtures which will be helped, under the muscular umbrella of "The Brut Olympic Five", is as follows. March 20.—Weightlifting match between Britain and France at Huddersfield sports centre. April 27 to 30—Modern pentathlon at Crystal Palace between Britain, United States, Russia, Denmark, Sweden and The Netherlands. May 23.—Judo at Crystal Palace between Britain and Belgium. May 29.—Yachting relay at Sunbury-on-Thames in a six team parallel slalom race. June 12.—Cycling at Leicester between Britain and Denmark—the final Olympic trial for Britain.

Yachting

New event to be presented as slalom team race

By John Nicholls

A novel yachting event, in the form of a slalom team race, is to be held at Queen Mary Reservoir near Sunbury-on-Thames on May 29. It is to be sponsored by Faberge Incorporated who are to present £3,000 to the British Olympic Yachting Appeal.

Six teams, each of three men, will sail a relay race in single-handed Laser dinghies over a simple windward/leeward course of about 100 metres. The windward leg will be straightforward, but a series of marks will have to be rounded on the downwind leg.

As long as the weather is suitable, the racing could be a new experience and, if plans to televise the meeting are fulfilled, it will show yacht racing to a wider public than usual. The teams will comprise past and potential Olympic helmsmen, yachting personalities and journalists.

Williams doing well

Daytona Beach, Florida, March 9.—The British motorcyclist, John Williams, who suffered a fractured skull in a crash during a race here on Sunday, was still listed in fair condition at Halifax Medical Center here today. His wife, Margaret, said today: "John is coming along fine."—Reuter.

Cricket

Interchange of umpires nearer fulfilment

The possibility of West Indian or Pakistani umpires officiating in county cricket came nearer fulfilment at yesterday's spring meeting of the Test and County Cricket Board at Lord's. The board will suggest to the International Cricket Conference in July that there should be an interchange of umpires between the Test-playing countries—but it is not envisaged that more than two a year would visit England.

Last year's panel of selectors were reelected. They are Alec Bedser, for his eighth year as chairman and 15th on the panel, supported by Ken Barrington, Charles Elliott and Sir Leonard Hutton.

The first Test against the Australians in 1977 is to be called the Jubilee Test to mark the Queen's 25 year reign. It will be played at Lord's on June 16, a break with tradition for Lord's has previously staged the second Test in a five-match series.

The other Tests in 1977 will be at Old Trafford, starting on July 7, Trent Bridge (July 28), Headingley (August 11) and the Oval (August 25).

The three Prudential Trophy games against the Australians will be played before the Test series at Old Trafford, Edgbaston and the Oval between June 2 and June 6.

The board agreed to review the structure of the first class game at the end of the current season with particular emphasis on the county championship, the only unsponsored competition.

This will in no way interfere with the decision to increase the county championship programme to 22 matches in 1977. If any changes are made they will not come in before 1978.

Prize money in the John Player League is going up next season from £12,600 to £16,950. The winning county will get £2,500, an increase of £500 and the runners-up £1,250, instead of £1,000. The prize for winning an individual match will be £75 instead of £...

The final accounts for 1975 showed a record profit of £661,... for distribution to counties, but it was pointed out that this was only a third of the amount needed to run the game and costs were expected to increase by £400,000 in the current year.

A change in the match regulations for 1976 is that any player leaving the field must ensure that the umpire is informed. He will not be allowed to bowl on his return until a period of time equal to that spent off the field. The West Indies have been asked to play under this rule.

The board have nominated Les Ames, a former England wicket-keeper and Kent secretary, to help pick the England Young Cricketers side to tour the West Indies and have agreed to release any player contracted to a county to take part in the tour.

Kent pay for little success

Kent County Cricket Club's comparative lack of success on the field last season was responsible for a hefty cash loss, says the annual report of the president, Leslie Ames.

The county's own "trading" led to a deficit of £19,897 which was reduced to £3,152 by a share of Test match receipts, dividends and interest and a donation from the supporters club. Mr Ames said: "It is essential that we increase our income from non-cricket activities as fast as possible."

He paid tribute to the county captain, Michael Denness, for "dignified leadership in difficult circumstances" of MCC's Australian tour in 1974-75 and of K... in 1975.

He said: "The impression remained that Kent cricket was often not belligerent enough especially in the limited over game where our wealth of batting should have told most to our advantage."

Tennis

New indoor event is a welcome gamble

By Rex Bellamy
Tennis Correspondent

Headley Baxter, who captained Britain's Davis Cup team for eight years, is to referee the Benson & Hedges tennis tournament at Wembley from November 15 to 21. The tournament will finish on a Sunday which is unusual in Britain although it is the general practice elsewhere.

This new event, the richest in Britain except for Wimbledon, will be the last European competition on the men's grand prix circuit. The prize money and the tournament's contribution to the grand prix bonus pool will amount to a total of £62,500.

The timing of this event has advantages and disadvantages. In addition to the prospect of immediate rewards from the big prize fund, many players will be particularly eager to do well so that they may improve their chances of earning grand prix bonuses and perhaps qualifying for the eight-man Masters tournament. Against that, they will mostly be somewhat jaded after an excess of competition and travel during a long season. In addition, the public's appetite for indoor tennis may to some extent have been sated by the Dewar tournament, which is to be played two weeks earlier.

In restoring tennis to Wembley, Benson & Hedges and their promotional partners, the Association of Tennis Professionals, are taking something of a gamble. But this welcome addition to Britain's restricted programme of first-class tennis deserves to succeed.

MOSCOW: United States beat R... 5—4. Yesterday's results: V. Ge... lost to Kakulia, 6—7; Ger... and A. Mayer beat Kakulia a... Metreveli, 6—2; Mrs L. W. King... Mrs O. Morozova, 7—5; Mrs Ki... Mayer beat Mrs Morozova and ...veli, 7—6.

صكنا من الاهل



...of modesty: Muhammad Ali, as quiet and serious ...ads his new autobiography.

...t is a million or two ...ng friends at Savoy

...n ...respondent

...d Ali, the world ...boxing champion and ...w business, hopes to ...just under £13m) this ...l to the $31,251,115 ...odestly regards as his ...ime earnings ".

...out these dazzling ...a mixed audience of ...public relations men, ...ers and mere sports ...the Savoy hotel in ...erday while he took ...unching of his book ...t (Hart-Davis, Mac-...5) which he wrote in ...a with Richard Dur-...ot like the public Ali ...st but I am sure he ...earned more than 33 ...rs if we include his ...ndorsements for milk, ...ks and garden games. ...a million or two ...ds?

...is supposed to have ...ntation" with the ...avyweight champion, ...nn, to boost ticket ...r Dunn's challenge for ...European title against ...ust, of West Germany, ...rt Hall on April 6 and ...a proposed Ali-Dunn ...ip bout in Munich on ...is is one of 26 engage-...t of them interviews, ...will undertake during ...s here. Yesterday was, ...e *Daily Express*, and ...*uardian* with, presum-...*nday Telegraph* quite ...ey have already paid ...e book. ...an still looks pretty enough but he was troubled yesterday by a cold and a sea-lion's cough which has plagued him for several weeks and reminds him, he says, that he is all of 34 years old. Someone bravely asked him about a possible split with his wife, Belinda, but Ali replied, gently enough, "You're too intelligent to talk about that kind of thing." He added "It's terrible to be popular. Everyone watches what you do, what pretty girl you look at, where you go."

The official invitation for the conference, which I did not receive, though I was allowed to enter on my National Union of Journalists card, asked that questions should be restricted to Ali's book and life. This proved a shade frustrating for boxing specialists, who have heard most of the philosophy many times before and wanted to wheel the conversation around to brave Mr Dunn.

Ali, who had uncharacteristically faltered over the surname of one potential opponent already, obviously found it hard to show much insight about the British worthy. But then he had already done himself proud, in saying of the former British champion, Brian London "pretty good fighter for a couple of rounds—but didn't take a punch too good".

How polite the great braggart really is about the men whose inadequacies have earned him a fortune. In August, 1966, London as he has admitted both to me, and in his serialized life story, went down in the third round and decided not to get up. Ten years later, Ali still does not have too much to worry about apart from a runny nose.

...huis and ...idge ...s Masters

...de ...pondent

...ns, Peter Oosterhuis ...e Bembridge, have ...this year's United ...rs golf tournament ...a national club, from ...Other non-American ...liar in this country, ...ceived invitations, are ...South African leader ...order of merit, Bob ...finished second to ...order of merit, and ..., another Australian, ...play-off for the Open

...American entry for ...which is subject to ...ions, foreign entries ...vitation. Oosterhuis, ...permanently on the ...cuit, is still a Briton ...be his seventh Mas-...

...team sign ...ading ...amateurs

...Fox

...pter and Ritchie ...wo leading British ...lists, who had been ...compete in the ...es this summer, yes-...ed professional for ...m captained by Hugh ...e former world

...last season's national ...l race champion and ...Britain in several ...aces at home and ...decision to turn pro-...this time is a con-...oss to Britain's ...ength, but a badly ...t for the domestic ...ranks.

Rowing

It's a dog day afternoon on Tideway

By Jim Railton

The Tideway Boat Race training yesterday was about as interesting as attending the Wigmore Hall and listening to a concert pianist practising scales. In a sense, that was exactly what Oxford and Cambridge were about, but at times it appeared that the virtuosi were performing with gloves on with the occasional muffled stroke and many staccato runs.

By the end of the morning, the only attraction was the Oxford four-man's dog, a springer spaniel called Ray, in a neutral black and white livery. Ray, it appears, may make Boat Race history by being the first dog to gain a seat on the Oxford launch and follow the Boat Race. Occasionally yesterday the spaniel wagged its tail as if in approval, at what I do not know, perhaps waiting for his master's voice.

Cambridge started the day with an Egyptian interlude called "Pyramids", climbing up and down a time scale and finished the day with a series of four-minute rows giving the appearance at times of a slave galley hauling granite from the Aswan quarries.

Oxford's main offering of the day was a 10-minute piece accompanied by Isis for most of the way.

OXFORD: *D. R. Beak (Radley and Oriel, bow), *G. S. Innes (Pangbourne and Oriel), A. D. Edwards (King's, Worcester and St Peter's), *R. A. Mason (Eton and Keble), S. G. H. Plunkett (Methodist College, Belfast, and Queen's), K. C. Brown (Cornell and Christ Church), A. J. Wiggins (Wallingford and Keble), *A. G. H. Baird (Radley and Christ Church, stroke), *J. N. Calvert (Thirsk and St Edmund Hall, cox).

CAMBRIDGE: D. J. Searle (Radley and St Catharine's, bow), R. R. A. Breare (Eton and Pembroke), M. R. Gritten (RMA Sandhurst and Queens'), M. P. Wells (Aylesbury GS and Selwyn), P. Davies (Tonbridge and First and Third Trinity), R. Cashin (Harvard and First and Third Trinity), *J. H. Clay (Eton and Pembroke), R. Harpum (RMA Sandhurst and Jesus, stroke), J. P. Manser (Westminster and Sidney Sussex, cox).

Times today: Oxford 10 am and 2.45 pm from Putney. Cambridge 10.45 am (Chiswick) and 5 pm Putney). Race to be rowed on March 20 (4.0).

European snow reports

	Depth (cm) L	Depth (cm) U	Conditions Piste	Conditions off Piste	Weather (5 pm) —	°C
	25	145	Fair	Varied	Fair	-5
...pes still good						
	80	230	Good	Powder	Fine	-6
...wder off piste						
	65	160	Good	Powder	Fine	-10
...king conditions						
	110	150	Good	Varied	Fine	-5
...now on north facing slopes						
	60	170	Good	Powder	Fine	-5
...terday ideal skiing						
	17	35	Fair	Varied	Cloud	-4
...es, icy patches						
	30	275	Fair	Varied	Fine	-2
...: except on some slopes						
	70	150	Good	Powder	Fine	-4
...: skiing conditions						
	25	90	Good	Powder	Fine	-1
...v provides good skiing						

...ve reports, supplied by representatives of the Ski Club of ..., L refers to lower slopes and U to upper slopes. The ...orts have been received from other sources:

Depth (cm) L	U	State of Piste	Weather —	°C
—	70	Good	—	-6
3	30	Poor	Cloud	-4
4	60	Fair	—	-3
60	150	Good	—	-7
0	40	Fair	—	-3
10	40	Fair	—	-4
30	180	Good	—	-7
13	80	Good	Cloud	-7
30	80	Good	Sun	-4
80	90	Hard	Cloud	-12
60	110	Good	Sun	-9
10	55	Hard	Cloud	-3
20	200	Good	Sun	-11
10	40	Fair	Sun	-5
30	70	Good	Sun	-10
20	90	Good	Sun	-2
65	100	Good	Sun	-13
50	110	Good	Sun	-5

	L	U	State	Weather	°C
Lenk	40	70	Good	Cloud	-5
Lenzerheide	20	50	Hard	Snow	-5
Les Diablerets	40	70	Good	Sun	-12
Leysin	30	110	Good	Sun	-4
Morgins	60	70	Good	Sun	-7
Pontresina	30	65	Good	Sun	-13
Saas-Fee	50	120	Good	Sun	-12
Zermatt	30	70	Good	Sun	—

SCOTLAND: Cairngorm: A few main runs complete, others broken, surface icy. Lower slopes, limited nursery areas. Vertical runs: 1,400 feet. Access roads clear. Snow level: 2,000 feet. Glenshee: No main runs complete, runs, patchy cover, spring snow. Lower slopes, no snow. Vertical runs: 600 feet. Access roads clear. Snow level: 2,200 feet. Glencoe: A few main runs complete, others broken, hard-packed snow with icy patches. Lower slopes, no snow. Vertical runs: 1,000 feet. Access roads clear. Snow level: 2,600 feet.

Racing

Favourite doubtful for Grand National

Tom Jones, the Newmarket trainer, said yesterday, that Jolly's Clump, the ante-post favourite for the Grand National, may be doubtful because of leg trouble.

"It's been a battle all year because his legs are not 100 per cent", Jones said. "It didn't matter too much in ordinary races, but there is a lot at stake in the Grand National.

"At the moment he is as well as he's ever been, but he's always a worry especially with the ground. There was too much at stake to risk him on the firm going at Worcester tomorrow but he does not really need a race before the National."

Some news of the other half of the Spring Double, the Lincoln Handicap, at Doncaster, is that Ernie Johnson has been booked to ride Parlor Noble for Sam Hall.

Trackers Highway is a non-runner, Ron Mason, the trainer says, but his other entry, Track Minstrel runs.

British horses thwarted

From Pierre Guillot
French Racing Correspondent

Cagnes-sur-Mer, March 9

British-trained horses finished second, third and fourth in yesterday's £2,700 Prix de la Tarentaise at Cagnes-sur Mer today and the horse that beat them—Adze—was ridden by Tony Murray, the English jockey. This was Murray's 12th winner of the meeting and Charles Milbank, the trainer's, 16th.

Verley Bewicke's Gold Claim was up with the leaders for most of this 11-furlong race, but had no answer to Adze's superior finishing speed in the final quarter mile. He was eventually beaten four lengths with John Dunlop's pair, Tuparamaro and Levinda, third and fourth, two lengths and a head farther back.

Connaught Square should round off a great career for Murless

By Michael Phillips
Racing Correspondent

Visiting Newmarket again you are struck by the way that the picture has changed there during the last 10 years. It is not so much that the landscape has actually altered—with the opening of the bypass there last autumn things have greatly improved—but it is the faces missing on the heath that really strike you.

Gone for a variety of reasons are so many of the old stalwarts. No longer there for instance are two of racing's knights, Sir Cecil Boyd-Rochfort and Sir Jack Jarvis. Also absent from the list of trainers are Harvey and Ted Leader; Jack and John Waugh; Bernard van Cutsem; Jack Clayton; Jack Watts; Reg Day; Geoffrey Barling; John Oxley; Humphrey Cottrill and Teddy Lambton. During the four years that I worked in Newmarket in the sixties they were household names and familiar faces.

Of the old guard only Noel Murless and Harry Wragg remain and Murless has already said that this is to be his last season training. At the end of it he will hand over Warren Place, where he has been since 1953, to his son-in-law, Henry Cecil, and along with it those horses that he has left. It has been a long and eventful journey for Noel and Gwen Murless since 1935 when he was first granted a licence to train. That year he had only one winner—Rubin Wood—who won the Lee Plate worth £103 at Lanark with Charlie Smirke riding.

But, by the end of 1975 Murless had trained 1,399 winners and accumulated £2,565,060 in win prize money for his owners. During that period he has been champion trainer nine times; won 19 classics in this country; two in Ireland and most of our other important races. Now the burning question is can he end a great career on a triumphant note even with a string which has been reduced in numbers in preparation for his retirement.

The answer to that question would appear to lie within the heart and soul of a big bay filly named Connaught Square, who might rightly be described as the hope of the side this season. Nineteen-seventy-five was not a vintage year judged by his own high standard. It was his poorest for 14 years, but that can be attributed to the fact that the horses at Warren Place were found to be suffering from thyroid trouble which upset their metabolism and caused a loss of form. Then to cap it all Murless's stable was plagued by ringworm in the autumn.

Talking about that attack yesterday Murless remarked: "I have had odd cases of ringworm in my time but never before an epidemic." It was that that forced him to shut up shop early, but not before we had got a glimpse of Connaught Square and an inkling of her true potential. She won the Milton Stakes at Doncaster in September and in so doing she gave every indication that she could develop into a classic candidate with another year over her head.

Connaught Square did not run again because, like many of her stable companions, she went down with ringworm soon after her return from Doncaster. It was not until I saw her in her box on Monday night and again out on the Heath yesterday morning that I was reminded of her potential, especially as far as the Oaks is concerned. A big rangy filly by the Eclipse Stakes winner, Connaught, and boasting a distinct look of her sire, Connaught Square is an impressive filly to watch when she is on the move.

Her dam, Antonietta Corsini, has already produced one good racehorse in Relay Race, who won the Hardwicke Stakes and the Jockey Club Stakes in 1974. But even Relay Race's light did not shine so brightly at the comparable stage of his career. All being well Connaught Square will take her chance in the 1,000 Guineas, which Murless has won six times already. Whether she runs beforehand will depend on how the weather behaves during the next six weeks.

Yesterday she looked far from backward and as hard as nails into the bargain, but fillies are susceptible to sudden changes in the weather and Murless was understandably reluctant to commit himself yet to a hard and fast plan. Connaught is already the sire of one good filly in the stable, the four-year-old Sauceboat and in Miss Pinkie time may reveal a third. I was struck by the way that this two year old half-sister to Welsh Pageant moved when I watched her out at exercise.

Roscommon, who is also by Connaught, is a three-year-old colt whose name is probably well worth remembering. Along with Navigator he is expected to emerge from obscurity this season. These two were working with the older horses yesterday morning. Both will have to have improved a lot since their two-year-old days to be even anywhere near the top class, but neither should be taken lightly.

Talking of improvement the four-year-old, Jumping Hill, has never looked better than he does now and Murless does not discount the possibility of him being good enough to justify a crack at the best races run over a mile and a mile and a quarter. Grey Home looks a sprinter pure and simple and that is what she may well turn out to be. But, with the best sprints now so much more valuable than they were only a few years ago, that should not be a disadvantage.

Grey Home won impressively at Newmarket in September and I have a feeling that she had an off day when she disappointed her connexions in the Cheveley Park Stakes. Talking about Grey Home, Murless remarked "She is beginning to remind me more and more of Abelia". And when you realize just how good a filly Abelia was in her heyday that was quite a compliment. Grey Home is owned by Mr Louis Freedman, who recently had the misfortune to lose his high-class young mare Mil's Bomb.

But, in Milsson Mr Freedman has a particularly nice young half-brother to Mil's Bomb by St Paddy, and it would be nice to think that his luck will change and that this one will do well and compensate him for the loss of Mil's Bomb. Murless clearly has a soft spot for Milsson, who even at this early stage of his career is thought to be a particularly nice horse with the future in mind.

Ground plays havoc with Cheltenham plans

By Jim Snow

On most racecourses there is a sad and starved look at present about the state of the going, and indeed there has been for the past four or five weeks precious little grass coverage. In the virtual absence of rain throughout the country, there has been no sign of the new year's young grass emerging even slowly to help to cushion the jar of pounding hooves in steeplechases and hurdle races on ground that is frighteningly firm.

February has been no fill-dyke month. To make things worse the north-east wind and severe frosts overnight for the past few weeks have made trainers reshape running plans. They have not been able to give their jumpers enough good and strong work at home to bring them to racing peak for their immediate engagements.

It is, of course, anyone's guess and as unpredictable as tossing a coin how next week's great three-day National Hunt meeting at Cheltenham will fare as regards numbers of runners. In 1975 waterlogging and impossibly heavy going caused the abandonment of many important races at Cheltenham, but next week there might be a shortage. Trainers are pessimistic about the chances of the horses they had planned to run at Cheltenham meeting their engagements.

Gordon Richards with 82 winner this season is well in front of Fred Winter, but if the going remains as firm as it has been for the past month and possibly so for the next week, then he will have only one runner at Cheltenham, Sea Pigeon in the Champion Hurdle.

Today at Catterick Bridge the fields are small except for the opening selling hurdle, which has a sinister look about it in the thought that there could be a 20-1 winner. My choice goes to Sweet Dough.

He is trained by Pat Buckley, who after a long and rewarding term of service as a jockey with Neville Crump, during which he won the Grand National on Ayala, and a large number of winners for Warwick House, Middleham, has made a goodish start to his new career. Sweet Dough has won over the Catterick course, been placed earlier in two races and Buckley has engaged his friend, Tommy Stack, champion jockey last season, to ride.

The finish for the two-mile Newby Handicap Steeplechase could be close. There are only four runners, but Rookery Nook, a winner last week for Crump over two and a half miles at Wetherby and The Shining Light, successful in two of his three races for Jimmy Fitzgerald's Malton stable, are sure to run well.

STATE OF GOING (official): Catterick Bridge: Good to firm. Worcester: Firm. Stratford-on-Avon (tomorrow): Firm. Wincanton: Firm.

Catterick Bridge programme

2.15 RUDBY HURDLE (Handicap: £340: 2m)

2 f0 Turkey Trot (S. Dickens), P. Buckley, 4-11-8 ... M. Murphy 7
4 033221 Unavailable (D) (L. Watts), R. Bower, 6-11-3 ... J. Smith 7
5 140-r0 Caleys Harvest (D) (R. Bevan), P. Bevan, 9-11-2 K. Jones 7
6 132001 Highway Robbery (D) (W. Robson), B. Richmond, 5-11-2 D. Rickells 7
8 032f00 Colspar (T. Craig), Craig, 6-11-0 ... J. Mooney 7
9 340400 Blackshoat (G. Tufts), Rex Carter, 7-10-13 ... —
10 02p020 Stand In (Mrs J. Shaw), N. Crump, 4-10-9 ... C. Hawkins 7
11 0000 Medina Boy (Mrs W. Davies), J. A. Turner, 9-10-9 J. Doyle
13 1032 Sweet Dough (CD) (Mrs M. Yell), P. Buckley, 4-10-8 T. Stack
14 003033 Bouchette (P. Downey), A. Smith, 5-10-8 ... C. Tinkler
15 3-p0000 Kenpak (Mrs J. Thomson), H. Blackshaw, 8-10-6 M. Blackshaw
17 000 Atrek (E. Collingwood), Collingwood, 9-10-3 ... A. Flint 7
18 40-0000 Pink Flamingo (J. Tierney), Tierney, 7-10-2 ... D. Wall 7
19 034400 Last Week-End (C. Longbottom), F. Wiles, 7-10-2 ... D. Nolan
22 00p000 Ray of Light (R. Moore), P. Bevan, 7-10-0 ... Red Weaver
23 4-00000 Divine Lass (D) (D. Bennett), A. Potts, 7-10-0 ... J. James
24 0400-02 Chippingham (D. Aaron), Aaron, 8-10-0 ... Mr Kersey 7
26 p00000 Cloudy Boy (CD) (Miss J. Toulson), M. Toulson, 10-10-0 P. J. Kelly 7
27 4020-00 Prize Bingo (J. Meehan), M. Camacho, 5-10-0 B. Nicholls 7

3-1 Sweet Dough, 7-2 Highway Robbery, 4-1 Unavailable, 11-2 Stand In, 7-1 Bouchette, 10-1 Chippingham, 12-1 Colspar, 16-1 others.

2.45 NEWBY STEEPLECHASE (Handicap: £822: 2m)

3 3-11f21 The Shining Lad (J. O'Riordan), J. FitzGerald, 11-10-8 T. Stack
4 1112 Chosen Slave (D) (T. Ellwood), A. Kemp, 9-10-5 V. Porcival
10 p040-01 Rookery Nook (D) (S. Green), N. Crump, 9-10-0 ... D. Atkins
11 030040 Three Fred's (CD) (Maj G. Maley), A. Watson, 9-10-0 G. Graham 5

11-8 Rookery Nook, 2-1 Chosen Slave, 7-2 The Shining Lad, 11-2 Three Fred's.

3.15 HORNBY HURDLE (Div I: Novices: £340: 2m)

1 1120 Lochranza (CD) (H. Michael), E. Carr, 5-12-6 Miss Y. Carr 5
2 000100 Hal's Slave (CD) (A. Corner), Corner, 6-11-10 Mr Ormston 7
5 000000 Chantro (W. J. Smith), Smith, 6-11-0 ... Mr Orde-Powlette 7
9 0-0034 Noble Tudor (M. Kellett), Kellett, 7-11-0 ... P. Broderick
10 220024 Purple Gem (A. Eubank), Eubank, 8-11-0 ... Mr Eubank 7
12 0 Skandia (W. A. Stephenson), Stephenson, 5-11-0 ... T. Stack
14 000 Tinganga (E. Cousins), Cousins, 5-11-0 ... D. Munro

5-2 Lochranza, 7-2 Purple Gem, 9-2 Noble Tudor, 6-1 Skandia, 8-1 Hal's Slave, 10-1 Chantro, 14-1 Tinganga.

3.45 BUSBY STEEPLECHASE (Handicap: £824: 3m 300yd)

4 232132 Tartan Tutor (CD) (R. Bethell), Bethell, 9-10-1 ... G. Holmes
5 41121 Guiding Star (T. Winterton), A. Dickinson, 7-10-0 M. Dickinson
7 0201u1 Old Stephen (CD) (J. Walby), W. A. Stephenson, 7-10-0 T. Stack

11-10 Guiding Star, 7-2 Old Stephen, 3-1 Tartan Tutor.

4.15 GIRSBY STEEPLECHASE (Novices: £476: 3m 300yd)

2 1f0001 Gold Escort (P. Greenall), W. A. Stephenson, 6-11-11 Mr Greenall
5 00-p024 Cool Thrust (Mrs M. Rutherford), C. Bell, 7-11-1 ... R. Lamb
6 p04342 Coparu (R. Jackson), T. Barnes, 6-11-1 ... M. Barnes
7 b43-0p Cross The Line (Brig T. Usher), T. Usher, 9-11-1 Mr Mactaggart
8 03f240 Gold Prince (R. Bethell), Bethell, 7-11-1 ... G. Holmes
10 ff Indian Sheba (J. Gilman), N. Crump, 7-11-1 ... D. Atkins
11 443022 Lochar Moss (D. MacDonald), MacDonald, 11-11-1 Mr Eubank 3
12 1-03000 Nautilus (J. Adams), H. Blackshaw, 7-11-1 ... M. Blackshaw
15 p-00000 Tudor Cracker (A. Sims), F. Wiles, 7-11-1 ... S. Wiles 5
16 420000 Willow Walk (W. Barker), J. Calvert, 6-11-1 ... N. Tinkler

2-1 Gold Escort, 7-2 Coparu, 9-2 Lochar Moss, 6-1 Nautilus, 8-1 Cool Thrust, 12-1 Gold Prince, 16-1 Indian Sheba, 20-1 others.

4.45 HORNBY HURDLE (Div II: £340: 2m)

1 010300 Early Morning (A. Sims), F. Wiles, 6-11-10 ... S. Wiles 5
3 000000 Before the Mast (S. Anderson), J. A. Turner, 5-11-0 P. Salmon 7
5 320 Kailash (A. Rand), H. Blackshaw, 7-11-0 ... M. Blackshaw
7 00 Prince Mandarin (T. Fu), Miss S. Hall, 6-11-0 ... P. Mangan
8 000-0 Royal Set (C. Bell), Bell, 5-11-0 ... R. Lamb
9 000 Rulitinia (Maj R. Faulkner), R. Faulkner, 8-11-0 Maj Faulkner 3
11 00020 Winter Story (Mrs A. Dickinson), A. Dickinson, 5-11-0 M. Dickinson

15-8 Royal Set, 3-1 Winter Story, 9-2 Kailash, 6-1 Early Morning, 8-1 Prince Mandarin, 12-1 Before the Mast, 14-1 Rulitinia.

Catterick Bridge selections

By Our Racing Staff

2.15 Sweet Dough. 2.45 Rookery Nook. 3.15 Lochranza. 3.45 GUIDING STAR is specially recommended. 4.15 Gold Escort. 4.45 Kailash.

Worcester programme

2.0 SIDBURY STEEPLECHASE (Handicap: £612: 2m)

2 310f11 Tinker Boy (CD) (Mrs D. Kent), Kent, 10-11-6 P. Haynes
5 13u4up Go-Over (D) (J. Symons), J. Thorne, 8-10-12 ... P. Blacker
8 31212f Dads Army (CD) (Mrs J. Colston), J. Colston, 7-10-0 D. Cartwright

4-9 Tinker Boy, 3-1 Dad's Army, 9-1 Go-Over.

2.30 FERRY HURDLE (Div I: £272: 2½m)

4 143330 Uncle Cyril (J. Lee), S. Matthews, 5-11-6 ... N. Kernick
5 00-0020 Be Cannie (Mrs V. McCalmont), T. Forster, 6-10-10 G. Thorner
8 000 Ben Mist (P. Mann), W. Mann, 5-10-10 ... R. Mann 5
10 0p00 Chitterne Hill (K. Lewis), Lewis, 6-10-10 ... Mr B. Thomas 7
12 3000 Eastern Light (T. Fowler), Fowler, 6-10-10 ... P. Leach 7
15 0p Hereford United (F. Dale), Dale, 5-10-10 ... P. Duggins 5
17 0 Jock's Novel (R. Rutter), H. Willis, 6-10-10 ... H. Evans 3
19 330000 Just Because (P. Brown), Mrs Whitfield, 5-10-10 C. Smith 7
22 4000-0p Mr Darling (Mrs D. Hanley), D. Hanley, 6-10-10 ... V. Soane
23 0002 Mr Fixit (C. Stone), Stone, 5-10-10 ... Mr Williams 5
24 p Mrs Stephens (Mrs M. Potter), L. Potter, 6-10-10 ... R. Evans
27 040-000 Rock Coin (P. Johnston), J. Hayward, 5-10-10 ... —
30 0000-00 So Likely (J. Weekes), T. Hallett, 5-10-10 ... T. Hallett 5

7-4 Be Cannie, 5-2 Uncle Cyril, 5-1 Mr Fixit, 10-1 Eastern Light, 12-1 Mr Darling, 14-1 Just Because and Ben Mist, 16-1 Jock's Novel, 20-1 others.

3.0 KING JOHN STEEPLECHASE (Handicap: £923: 3m 5f)

10 13021 Prince Rock (M. Buckley), P. Bailey, 8-10-0 ... R. Evans
11 0-03p0f Norwell (M. Low), Low, 9-10-0 ... C. Brown 5
13 24222u Hinterland (M. Henriques), Henriques, 10-10-0 Dr D. Chesney 5
14 2434f0 Herminius (P. Morris), Mrs Whitfield, 8-10-0 ... C. Smith 7
15 0p-p304 Eyton Rising (F. Dale), Dale, 11-10-0 ... P. Duggins 5

4-5 Prince Rock, 11-4 Eyton Rising, 6-1 Hinterland, 10-1 Norwell, 12-1 Herminius.

3.30 WYCHBOLD HURDLE (Handicap: £544: 2½m)

1 400013 Grey Dove (G. Price), Price, 7-11-13 ... Mr C. Price 7
2 10r00p Past Master (D. Dipple), W. Whiston, 9-11-3 ... R. Reid
5 00012-0 All My Love (Mrs C. Tudor), R. Akehurst, 6-10-10 ... J. King
10 12-0000 Proper Gent (Mrs A. Wood), T. Forster, 5-10-3 ... G. Thorner
12 412000 Corrib Road (A. Arnold), Arnold, 6-10-0 ... C. Astbury

7-4 All My Love, 2-1 Grey Dove, 5-1 Proper Gent, 6-1 Corrib Road, 8-1 Past Master.

4.0 MARK FIVE STEEPLECHASE (Handicap: £544: 3m)

1 300-f0p Straight Vulgan (D) (C. Hurt), P. Ransom, 10-11-7 Mr G. Jones
2 0020-p0 Gin Fizz (C. Gilman), G. Vergette, 9-11-4 ... Mr G. Vergette 7
3 0-113u0 Complex Girl (H. Burns), Burns, 8-10-10 ... Mr A. Young 7
5 p0-4020 Star Pearl (D) (G. Nicholson), Nicholson, 7-10-7 Mr P. Welsh 7
8 p33000 Dolly Mixture (J. Foulds), Foulds, 10-10-7 ... Mr A. Wilson 7
9 310000 Chanter Mark (D) (D. Darling), H. Nicholson, 9-10-7 Mr D. Darling 7
10 pp0 Blue Jamie (S. Burfield), Mrs Kennard, 12-10-7 Mr K. Bosley 7
11 -03041-0 Bell-Amy (A. Parry-Jones), D. Jones, 5-10-7 Mr J. Llewellyn 7
12 p1f0p0 Manitas (M. Henriques), Henriques, 7-10-7 Dr D. Chesney 5
13 3f0020 State Visitor (F. Baldrey), M. Oliver, 13-10-7 Mr R. Lalor 7

11-4 Gin Fizz, 7-2 Chanter Mark, 5-1 Straight Vulgan, 7-1 State Visitor, Complex Girl, 10-1 Star Pearl, Blue Jamie, 12-1 Bell-Amys, 14-1 others.

4.30 FERRY HURDLE (Div II: £272: 2½m)

2 0-32001 Little Buck (J. Friday), Friday, 5-11-6 ... Mr G. Jones
3 30010 Low Profile (J. Hurley), Hurley, 5-11-6 ... P. Brogan
9 0 Brereton Green (F. Longman), M. Tate, 5-10-10 ... R. Evans
11 000002 Buck's Fizz (Mrs D. Nicholson), D. Nicholson, 5-10-10 J. Suthern
13 0 Darwin (K. Lewis), Lewis, 5-10-10 ... Mr B. Thomas 7
15 00-0032 Flora Go Lightly (Miss B. Sykes), S. Holland, 5-10-10 S. Holland
16 0 Foxstar Boy (F. Quick), C. Small, 5-10-10 ... —
23 Orvotus (A. Scott), D. Gandolfo, 5-10-10 ... P. Barton
25 040000- Quiche Loraine (Mrs R. Murphy), R. Murphy, 6-10-10 C. Carter 7
26 3202b0 Shivers Regal (Mrs G. Clay), G. Clay, 6-10-10 ... P. Warner
27 00 Spartan Sally (W. Allen), Allen, 6-10-10 ... P. Mangan

13-8 Buck's Fizz, 7-2 Little Buck, 5-1 Orvotus, 13-2 Low Profile, 8-1 Flora Go Lightly, 12-1 Brereton Green, Shivers Regal, 14-1 others.

Worcester selections

By Our Racing Staff

2.0 Tinker Boy. 2.30 Be Cannie. 3.0 Prince Rock. 3.30 Grey Dove. 4.0 Complex Girl. 4.30 Little Buck.

Huntingdon results

2.0 (2.2) WARBOYS HURDLE (Div 1: 4-y-o: £408: 2m 200yds)

Invergayle, ch c, by Lord Gayle—Invermore (J. Allibriton), 10-7 J. Walkinson (6-4 jt fav) 1
Lacrimally, ch c, by Weepers Boy—Sally's Girl (R. Reeves), 10-7 D. Cartwright (11-1) 2
Robb Rian, gr g, by Right Boy—Superiority (I. Axe), 11-0 M. Blackshaw (7-1) 3

ALSO RAN: 6-4 jt fav Priestlaw (ur), 16-1 Golden Rock, Highview Lord, 33-1 Jolly Sweet (4th), Look North, Pickwood Night, Windy Hill. 10 ran.

TOTE: Win, 25p; places, 14p, 23p, 18p; dual forecast, 94p. H. Thomson Jones, at Newmarket. 20l, 5l.

2.30 (2.33) GRAVELEY STEEPLECHASE (Handicap: £340: 2m 100yds)

Border Javel, b g, by Javelot—Rogal Princess (Mrs P. Ockleston), 8-10-12 .. R. Hyett (9-1) 1
Gay Como, br h, by Como—Cash Crop (B. Cunningham), 7-10-11 C. Tinkler (5-2 fav) 2
Princess Saraguay, ch m, by Articulate—Rannock Moor (G. Turk), 11-10-0 Mr B. Parsons (33-1) 3

ALSO RAN: 4-1 Roman Law (pu), 9-2 Golden Crescent (f), 6-1 Bucks Head (pu), 8-1 Cast Iron (4th), 14-1 Reich Mark, Whittler, 20-1 Throstle Nest (ur), 33-1 Homulus (pu). 11 ran.

TOTE: Win, 92p; places, 36p, 19p, 88p. J. Wright, at Bromyard. 10l, 2½l. Winner bought in for 730gns.

3.0 MAJOR CHARLES TOWNSEND STEEPLECHASE (£510: 2½m)

Streaky Bacon, b g, by Firestreak—Another Sue (J. Emerson), 9-11-7 .... Mr A. Berry (4-1) 1
Ballynatray, b g, by Orchardist—Flamecrew (J. Friday), 9-11-7 Mr D. Crozier (10-1) 2
Tosial Time, ch g, by Apolonius—Tostal Day (G. Faber), 8-12-2 Mr D. Kinsella (10-1) 3

ALSO RAN: 10-11 fav Conniff (4th), 7-1 Spacerambie, 9-1 The Edwardian, 11-1 Prospects Lad (pu), 16-1 Shanceman (f), 35-1 Barony Fort, Firearm. 10 ran.

TOTE: Win, 52p; places, 17p, 32p, 35p; dual forecast, £1.79. J. Emerson, at Sleaford. 3l, 2l.

3.30 (3.31) WARD HILL HURDLE (Handicap: £1,186: 3m)

Jan Stewer, ch g, by Honour Bound—Last Waltz (Mrs R. Whiteway), 6-11-7 .. P. Haynes (4-5 fav) 1
Forbidden Fruit, b g, by No Argument—Love Apple (G. Cooper), 6-11-9 .... G. Thorner (6-4) 2
Daring Dolly, b f, by Derring-Do—Hethersent (Mrs E. Dawson), 4-10-0 .... A. Mawson (50-1) 3

ALSO RAN: 6-1 Kibenkus (4th). 4 ran.

TOTE: Win, 30p; forecast, 33p. D. Kent, at Chichester. 2l, 30l.

4.0 (4.2) HARTFORD STEEPLECHASE (Novices: £544: 3m 100yd)

Darlington Charlie, ch g, by Anthony—Popalong (J. Biggs), 8-11-1 ...... C. Astbury (3-1) 1
Border Mark, b g, by Border Chief—Query Mark (Lt-Col. J. Chamberlayne), 8-11-1 D. Cartwright (20-1) 2
Manitee's Venture, b g, by Eastern Venture—Manitee (S. Sainsbury), 9-10-8 ...... C. Smith (33-1) 3

ALSO RAN: 11-10 fav Caesarean (bd), 4-1 Fair View (bd), 14-1 Fairhill (4th), 20-1 Kirkee (f), 33-1 Toy Soldier. 8 ran.

TOTE: Win, 33p; places, 16p, 43p, 44p; dual forecast, £3.85. R. Hollinshead, at Upper Longdon. 3l, 30l.

4.30 (4.35) WARBOYS HURDLE (Div II: 4-y-o: £408: 2m 200yd)

Sam Browne, b c, by Double Jump—Sam's Song (G. Ratcliffe), 10-7 .. M. Blackshaw (9-4 fav) 1
Portman Square, b g, by Charlottown—Tinted (S. Mear), 10-7 T. Stack (9-2) 2
Derry Dale, b f, by Derring-Do—Wasdale (Mrs E. Dawson), 10-7 A. Mawson (12-1) 3

ALSO RAN: 5-1 Aloha Prince, 6-1 Otaki (4th), Winged Typhoon, 13-2 Molly's Beau, 7-1 Five Card Stud, 20-1 The Lubistein, 33-1 Et Tu, Ambrina (pu). 11 ran.

TOTE: 27p; places, 18p, 19p, 25p. J. Hardy, at Staunton. 5l, nk.

TOTE DOUBLE: Streaky Bacon, Darlington Charlie, £9. TREBLE: Border Javel, Jan Stewer, Sam Browne, £35.30.

Plumpton

2.15 (2.16) ERIDGE HURDLE (Handicap: £396: 2m)

Downing Arms, br g, by Horse Power—Trivet Mark (T. Foulds), 6-11-6 ...... G. Holmes (14-1) 1
Otago Gold, ch g, by Zeus Boy—Lucky Charm (Mrs P. Donkin), 7-10-9 C. Bowen (5-1 jt fav) 2
Sir Waldo, b g, by Pavan—Premier Honour (M. Gayler), 6-11-0 J. Guest (6-1) 3

ALSO RAN: 5-1 jt favs Henry Bruce, Given, 11-2 Transformation, 10-1 Welsh Dragon (4th), 16-1 Hats Off, 33-1 Fleet Fox, What a Fairy, Up Jenkins, Unknown Warrior (ro), Kempton Lad, Lovelace Watkins. 14 ran.

TOTE: Win, £1.36; places, 43p, 19p, 22p. D. Ringer, Newmarket. 6l, 2l. Young Dedham did not run.

2.45 (2.47) "CLAPPER" STEEPLECHASE (Hunters: £354: 3m)

Road Race, br g, by Chou Chin Chow—Mazatuella (Lord Cadogan), 10-11-7 Mr B. Smart (5-2 fav) 1
Montburg, gr g, by Perhapsburg—Harlemont (H. Roberts), 9-11-12 Mr T. Jeanes (10-1) 2
Ting-A-Ling, br g, by New Brig—Cormiston Lass (Miss S. Fairbarns), 9-11-9 Mr D. Evatt (7-2) 3

ALSO RAN: 6-1 Golden Reppin, 9-1 Coxswain, 10-1 Brough (4th), 11-1 Brigand Prince, 12-1 Air Major (pu), Newcastle, 20-1 Guinea Model (f), Hemminostown (ur). 11 ran.

TOTE: Win, 41p; places, 10p, 30p, 17p. Mrs R. Pitman, Swindon. 10l, 4l. Maedas did not run.

3.15 (3.17) DON BUTCHERS HURDLE (Handicap: £520: 3m)

Tiepin, b h, by Quorum—Pina (Sir B. McAlpine), 5-11-0 B. R. Davies (4-1 jt fav) 1
New Horn, ch g, by Rockavon—Glamorous (Mrs P. Green), 6-10-2 .... G. Holmes (8-1) 2
Court Shadow, b g, by Harwell—Macshadow (D. Grieg), 7-10-1 Mr S. Parkyn (8-1) 3

ALSO RAN: 4-1 jt fav Royal Rudolf (4th), 11-2 Linbury Lass, 7-1 Franwin, 8-1 Cheapside, 14-1 Molson, 16-1 Born Gambler (pu), Lover's Leap, 33-1 Arctic Ace, Go To Work. 12 ran.

TOTE: Win, 38p; places, 17p, 25p, 27p. F. Cundell, Didcot. 2l, nk.

3.45 (3.47) MOUNT HARRY STEEPLECHASE (Handicap: £597: 2m 750yd)

Quick Result, b m, by Moyrath Jet—Tudor Trial (P. Deal), 5-10-9 Mr B. Smart (14-1) 1
Bill's Brother, ch g, by Silver Cloud—Evening Rise (K. Rolph), 7-11-11 .. G. Holmes (4-1 fav) 2
Glasgow Express, b g, by Royal Palace—Bewitching (M. Reay), 6-11-2 ...... A. Branford (8-1) 3

ALSO RAN: 9-2 The Grandson, 5-1 Rowley Cottage (f), 9-1 Silent Waif (4th), 10-1 Jimmy Lighter, 12-1 Talassio, 14-1 Caissa Ira, Miss Alba, 16-1 Band of Hope, 20-1 Lammas (pu), Parenventure (pu), Spartan Lass (pu), Our Jimmy (f), Grotal Green (pu). 16 ran.

TOTE: Win, £1.87; places, 65p, 26p, 51p. Mrs Pitman, at Swindon. 2l, 10l.

4.15 (4.16) BOLNEY STEEPLECHASE (Handicap: £599: 2m)

Bredgar, b g, by Space King—Red Ranee (Mrs E. Boucher), 6-11-3 Mr J. Mead (7-2) 1
Curlew River, ch g, by Jock Scot—Pepy (Mrs L. Bader), 11-10-6 Mr N. Henderson (7-1) 2
Hurry Imp, b g, by Javelot—Rising Gold (Mrs O. Negus-Fancey), 6-10-2 .... Mr D. Evatt (4-1) 3

ALSO RAN: 100-30 fav Sunny Chief (f), 5-1 Mister Hapsburg, 10-1 Goldspur (pu), 16-1 Rosebrook (4th), 25-1 Manor House. 8 ran.

TOTE: Win, 43p; places, 19p, 18p, 16p; dual forecast, £1.34. Mrs Oughton, at Findon. 4l, 3l.

4.45 (4.47) WALLANDS HURDLE (£519: 2m)

Flash Imp, bl g, by Bing II—Double Magnum (Mrs O. Negus-Fancey), 7-12-2 .... R. Mann (2-5 fav) 1
Simons Pet, br g, by Frigid Aire—Miltonia (Mrs O. Jackson), 5-12-2 .... J. Guest (3-1) 2
Lord David, br h, by Tesco Boy—The Veil (W. Skinner), 8-12-7 M. Wagner (12-1) 3

ALSO RAN: 18-1 Laurious (4th), 25-1 Morning Song, 66-1 Selway, Bevan Express. 7 ran.

TOTE: Win, 16p; places, 12p, 14p; dual forecast, 16p. M. Tate, at Kidderminster. Nk, 15l. Potterton, Royal Fanfare did not run.

TOTE DOUBLE: Tie Pin, Bredgar, £10.40. TREBLE: Road Race, Quick Result, Flash Imp, £44.30.

Law Report March 9 1976

Court of Appeal

TV contractors' costs include Exchequer levy

HTV Ltd v Price Commission

Before Lord Denning, Master of the Rolls, Lord Justice Scarman and Lord Justice Goff

The Court of Appeal, in reserved judgments, allowed an appeal by HTV Ltd, a programme contractor, against Mr Justice Mocatta's refusal (*The Times*, November 19) to grant a declaration against the Price Commission that a levy on profits paid indirectly to the Exchequer (the Exchequer levy) fell within the words "total costs per unit of output" in paragraph 39 of the schedule to the Counter-Inflation (Price Code) Order, 1974.

Last July HTV notified the commission that they wished to increase their advertising charges (the rate card) and include the levy as a permissible cost. The commission took the view that the levy was not a cost for the purpose of paragraph 39.

Paragraph 39 reads "(1) . . . where the price of a product . . . does not afford a margin over total costs per unit of output of seven-tenths of the percentage margin at April 30, 1973 . . . an enterprise may increase the price of the product concerned to the extent required to give such a margin."

Leave to appeal to the House of Lords was granted on the understanding that HTV would be able to increase their charges in accordance with the court's decision.

Mr Richard Yorke, QC, and Miss Genevra Caws for HTV; Mr Thomas Bingham, QC, and Mr Christopher Bathurst for the commission.

The MASTER OF THE ROLLS said that HTV received their revenue from the display of advertisements. The actual broadcasting was done by the Independent Broadcasting Authority in pursuance of contracts under the Television Act, 1964, and the Independent Broadcasting Authority Act, 1973, which gave HTV the right to show programmes provided they made payments to the authority monthly in advance. In default of payment within seven days, the agreements could be terminated. One part of the payment went to the authority. The other part consisted of "additional payments", called the "Exchequer levy", which the authority passed on to the national Exchequer.

From 1968 to 1974 the Exchequer levy was calculated as a percentage of the advertising receipts. By 1973 the turnover was over £10m and the levy over £1m.

From June, 1974, under the 1973 Act, the levy was calculated on the basis of profits, not advertising receipts. All profits over £250,000 bore a levy of two-thirds.

HTV were subject to the Price Code. They could not increase their charges to advertisers except within its limits.

In 1975 HTV were affected, like everyone else, with increased costs, and sought a corresponding increase in their charges to advertisers. They notified the commission of the proposed increases. The commission did not agree to the proposal. There was a difference of view as to the proper way of calculating the permitted increases which had culminated in the present action.

His Lordship had tried to explain the Price Code in *General Electric Co Ltd v Price Commission* (*The Times*, November 23, 1974; [1975] ICR 1). But it had been found that the price limitations in some cases operated harshly. The permitted prices were not enough to enable the manufacturer or trader to pay his way. So in the revised code of 1974, which came into operation on December 20, 1974, "safeguards" were introduced to give relief to those whose profit margins were being eroded by higher costs. One safeguard was contained in paragraph 39.

HTV claimed the protection of paragraph 39. They said that "total cost per unit of output" included the Exchequer levy whereas the commission said that in calculating the "total costs" the levy was to be omitted.

Although any accountant might understand paragraph 39 easily, his Lordship could not do so except by taking illustrations to see how it worked. He took the year ended April 30, 1973. After extracting the figures and applying paragraph 39 he concluded that it meant that HTV were entitled to increase the price of its produce (ie, television time) to the extent required to give a percentage margin of 12.07 per cent per unit of output. For the year ended September 30, 1975 (when HTV took as part of the total costs the levy, calculated as a percentage of profits of about £1m, and not as in 1973 of receipts) there was a percentage margin of 7.65 per cent. By applying paragraph 39, it meant that HTV could increase their prices so as to bring the 1975 margin of 7.65 per cent up to the 1973 margin of 12.07 per cent.

The commission, however, said that the calculation for 1975 was erroneous; that the levy ought not to be counted as part of the total costs in 1975; that when the levy was calculated as a percentage of profits it no longer formed part of the "costs" but part of the "profits". They likened the arrangement to a partnership in which the partners shared the profits; and the levy to a tax which came out of profits.

But HTV said that the levy retained the same characteristics before and after the change; that it formed part of the "costs"; and that "the total costs per unit of output" should be calculated on the same footing for the base year 1973 as for 1975.

In *General Electric* the court held that the application of the code was primarily a matter for the commission; and that the court would rarely interfere with their decisions. Mr Justice Mocatta had applied the reasoning of that case, and felt that he could not interfere with the commission's decision.

Mr Yorke, for HTV, said that in past years the commission had repeatedly acknowledged that the additional payments (towards a levy) were part of their "costs" or "expenses", that they were right in so doing; and that it was not permissible to turn round now and treat them differently.

Attention had been drawn to "the £1m anomaly". In HTV's accounts before 1975 the levy was treated as part of the "total costs". In 1973 it came to about £1m. On that footing, by paragraph 18 of the code, HTV were allowed price increases to make up for increases in the levy. In 1975 the levy still came to about £1m. If HTV were not allowed to treat it as part of their "total costs", it meant that after 1975 their "total costs per unit of output" would be greatly reduced and they would not qualify for an increase for a long time, until other costs had made up the £1m.

The *Shorter Oxford Dictionary* defined "cost" as including "expenditure" and "expenses" as including "costs".

From July, 1974, the levy had been calculated on the basis of a percentage on profits and in July and December, 1974, HTV gave notice to the commission of their intention to increase their advertising charges, showing the levy as part of their total costs. No objection was taken by the commission; and price increases were allowed on that basis. Like everybody else the commission must take responsibility for what their subordinates did.

The levy retained the same character before 1974 as afterwards, but it was calculated differently. Instead of being calculated on receipts, it was calculated on profits. His Lordship saw no warrant for treating it differently after 1974. That was what the commission sought to do.

It was the commission's duty to act with fairness and consistency in their dealings with manufacturers and traders. Although it was primarily for them to interpret and apply the code, if they regularly interpreted the words of the code in a particular sense, or regularly applied the code in a particular way, they should continue to interpret and apply it in the same way thereafter unless there was good cause for departing from it. They should not depart from it in any case where they had by their conduct led the manufacturer or trader to believe that he could safely act on that interpretation, and he did so act on it.

It had often been said that a public body, entrusted by Parliament with the exercise of powers for the public good, could not falter in their exercise. It could not be estopped from doing its public duty.

But that was subject to the qualification that it must not misuse its powers. It was a misuse of power to act unfairly or unjustly towards a private citizen when there was no over-riding public interest to warrant it: *Congreve v Home Office* ([1976] 2 WLR 291).

The commission in the past had regularly treated the levy as properly included in "total costs". It would be unfair and unjust for them to assert now that it should not be included. If it were necessary his Lordship would hold that it was proper to be included. The appeal should be allowed.

LORD JUSTICE SCARMAN, concurring, said that the Price Commission submitted that there was no question of statutory interpretation for the court to answer, that what were "total costs per unit of output" was a question of fact for the commission to determine in accordance with generally accepted accountancy principles: alternatively, that upon a proper understanding of the nature of the Exchequer levy it did not come within the range of "total costs per unit of output".

What were the powers of the court in relation to the commission? The Counter-Inflation Act, 1973, had introduced a statutory Price Code into our law. The current edition of the code was set out in the schedule which came into operation on December 20, 1974, with the new paragraph 39 which was at the heart of the present dispute.

To enable the commission to do its duty faithfully, comprehensively and justly, the legislature had conferred very wide powers indeed. Paragraph 1 of the code provided that the commission were required to exercise their powers so as to ensure that the code was implemented; all those concerned with the determination of prices and charges were to have regard to it.

The commission's assertion that the interpretation and application of the code were very largely their business, not the business of the courts, was only acceptable within strict limits. Questions of fact and policy arising in the course of implementing the code were for the commission, not the courts. The interpretation of statutes, including delegated legislation, was a matter of law. The meaning of common English words was a matter of fact to be decided by the common sense of the court or tribunal. The meaning of technical words was to be determined by those expert in the appropriate technique. At the end of the process of fact-finding, including the evidence of experts to ascertain the meaning of technical words, the interpretation of legislative language remained a question of law. It was a matter for the courts unless their jurisdiction was expressly excluded. It took very clear language to exclude the supervisory jurisdiction of the High Court.

Further, agencies, like the Price Commission had to act fairly. If they did not, the High Court might interfere either by the prerogative writs or, as here, by declaring the meaning of the statute and the duty of the agency. The duty of supervision, as old as the establishment of the King's justices, had developed considerably with the modern growth of administrative agencies whose duties required them to make judicial or semi-judicial decisions. It was a common place of modern law that such bodies must act fairly: *In re H.K. (An Infant)* ([1967] 2 QB 617).

Although the commission were a policy body fighting inflation, they were also an agency implementing a code which directly affected the rights of commercial and industrial enterprises. A code had to be implemented fairly. Technical terms should not deter the courts from exercising their power of supervision. Their meaning would be elucidated with the help of expert opinion by the commission.

The question whether the levy was a cost was a question of mixed fact and law. Accountants could not resolve the problem. Nor could the commission if there was a challenge to their view.

In his Lordship's judgment, those "additional payments" were from the contractor's point of view part of his total costs. They could be distributed over the units of output so as to achieve a figure per unit of output. The character of the levy did not change when its basis of calculation was altered.

LORD JUSTICE GOFF, also concurring, said that the construction of the words "total costs" in paragraph 39 was a question of law which did not involve any question of accountancy practice or expertise. The additional payments in question were part of the "total costs" within the meaning of the paragraph, for HTV were bound to make them in order to obtain and keep a licence from the Independent Television Authority without which they could not carry on their business or produce or acquire their unit of output, which was one hour of television time. That conclusion was confirmed by the commission's past practice. It was of the utmost importance that statutory tribunals should be consistent.

Solicitors: Church, Adams, Tatham & Co; Treasury Solicitor.

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London, 3rd March, 1976.

LEGAL NOTICES

No 00356 of 1976

In the HIGH COURT of JUSTICE Chancery Division Group A. In the Matter of CONSOLIDATED GOLD FIELDS Limited, in the Matter of the Companies Act 1948.

Notice is hereby given that the Order of the High Court of Justice Chancery Division dated 1st March 1976 CONFIRMING the REDUCTION of the CAPITAL of the above-named Company from £50,000,000 to £48,??0,472 and the Minute approved by the Court showing with respect to the Share Capital of the Company, as altered, the several particulars required by the above Act, were registered by the Registrar of Companies on 4th March 1976.

Dated this 4th day of March 1976.

FRESHFIELDS of Grindall House, 25 Newgate Street, London, EC1 A7LH solicitors for the said Company.

THE COMPANIES ACTS, 1948 to 1967. C. W. F. ADVERTISING Limited formerly COHEN WHYMAN AND FREEDMAN Limited.

Notice is hereby given, pursuant to section 293 of the Companies Act, 1948, that a MEETING of the CREDITORS of the above-mentioned Company will be held at 1 Wardrobe Place, Carter Lane, London, EC4V 5AJ, on Friday, the 19th day of March, 1976, at 11.30 o'clock in the forenoon, for the purposes mentioned in sections 294 and 295 of the said Act.

Dated this 3rd day of March, 1976.

By Order of the Board,
P. A. RICHARDS,
Secretary.

THE COMPANIES ACTS, 1948 to SONS HUGHES AND PARTNERS Limited.

Notice is hereby given, pursuant to section 293 of the Companies Act, 1948, that a MEETING of the CREDITORS of the above-named Company will be held at 1 Wardrobe Place, Carter Lane, London, EC4V 5AJ, on Friday, the 19th day of March 1976, at 11.15 o'clock in the forenoon for the purposes mentioned in sections 294 and 295 of the said Act.

Dated this third day of March, 1976.

By Order of the Board,
P. A. RICHARDS,
Secretary.

LEGAL NOTICES

No. 00420 of 1976

In the HIGH COURT of JUSTICE Chancery Division Companies Court in the Matter of LACAL COMPANIA NAVIERA S.A. and in the Matter of the Companies Act 1948

Notice is hereby given that a PETITION for the WINDING UP of the above-named Company by the High Court of Justice was on the 4th February 1976 presented to the said Court by N.V. Stukwerkers Havenbedrijf of Stapelplein 16, 9000 Ghent, Belgium and P.V.B.A.W. de Munck of Brussels 1041, Jozef II, Straat No. 77, Belgium and that the said Petition is directed to be heard before the Court sitting at the Royal Courts of Justice, Strand, London on the 5th April 1976; and any Creditor or Contributory of the said company desirous to support or oppose the making of an Order on the said Petition may appear at the time of hearing in person or by his Counsel for that purpose; and a copy of the Petition will be furnished by the undersigned to any Creditor or Contributory of the said Company requiring such copy on payment of the regulated charge for the same. And Notice is hereby further given that by an Order dated the 20th February 1976 the Court ordered that publication by advertisement not later than the 24th March 1976 in this form of the said Petition and of the said Order once in the "LONDON GAZETTE" once in "THE TIMES" and once in "LLOYD'S LIST" newspaper and be serving the said Petition by first class pre-paid letter post addressed to Lacal Compania Naviera S.A. c/o the Oceanus Mutual Underwriting Association (Bermuda) Limited 15-18 Lime Street, London EC3 be deemed good and sufficient service of the Petition upon the said Lacal Compania Naviera S.A.

CLYDE & CO of Dunster House, Mincing Lane, London EC3R 7BR—solicitors for the Petitioners.

NOTE.—Any person who intends to appear on the hearing of the said Petition must serve on or send by post to the above-named Notice in writing of his intention so to do. The Notice must state the name and address of the person, or, if a firm, the name and address of the firm and must be signed by the person or firm, or his or their solicitor (if any), and must be served, or if posted, must be sent by post in sufficient time to reach the above-named not later than 4 o'clock in the afternoon of the 2nd April 1976.

No. 003037 of 1975

In the HIGH COURT of JUSTICE In the Matter of STORETON QUARRIES Limited and in the Matter of the Companies Act 1948.

I, FRANK WILLIAM TAYLOR of 31 North John Street, Liverpool, L2 6RS, hereby give notice that by an Order of the High Court of Justice dated 11th December, 1975, I have been APPOINTED LIQUIDATOR of Storeton Quarries Limited.

F. W. TAYLOR

Dated this 27th day of February, 1976.

No. 002760 of 1975

In the HIGH COURT of JUSTICE. Chancery Division. Companies Court. In the Matter of LANSDOWN LITHOGRAPHIC COMPANY Limited and in the Matter of the Companies Act 1948.

By Order of the Court, dated the 11th day of December, 1975, it is ordered that BRIAN MILLS of Harley Buildings, 11 Old Hall Street, Liverpool L3 9PP, Accountant be and he is hereby appointed LIQUIDATOR of the above named Company.

LEGAL NOTICES

In the Matter of The Companies Acts, 1948 to 1967 and in the Matter of ELY ELECTRICAL COMPANY Limited (in Liquidation).

Notice is hereby given pursuant to Section 299 of The Companies Act, 1948: that a GENERAL MEETING of the MEMBERS of the above-named Company will be held at the Offices of W. H. Cork, Gully & Co., Chartered Accountants, of Guildhall House, 81-87 Gresham Street, London, EC2V 7DS, on Friday the 26th day of March, 1976, at 11.45 a.m. to be followed at 12 noon by a GENERAL MEETING of the CREDITORS for the purpose of receiving an account of the Liquidator's Acts and Dealings and of the conduct of the Winding-Up to date.

Dated this 4th day of March, 1976.

D. N. MARTIN,
Liquidator.

In the Matter of the Companies Act 1948 and in the Matter of KURLAND & HASKIN Limited (In Voluntary Liquidation).

Notice is hereby given pursuant to Section 299 of the Companies Act 1948, that a GENERAL MEETING of the MEMBERS of the above named Company will be held at the offices of the Joint Liquidator, Mr R. P. Booth, 1 Wardrobe Place, Carter Lane, London EC4 V5AJ on Thursday 1st April, 1976 at 11.45 a.m., to be followed at 12.00 noon by a GENERAL MEETING of the CREDITORS for the purpose of receiving an account of the Liquidators' Act and Dealings and of the conduct of the Winding-up to date.

Dated this 2nd March 1976.

R. PARKYN BOOTH
Joint Liquidator

THE COMPANIES ACTS, 1948 to 1967. C. W. F. MEDIA Limited.

Notice is hereby given, pursuant to section 293 of the Companies Act, 1948, that a MEETING of the CREDITORS of the above-named Company will be held at 1 Wardrobe Place, Carter Lane, London, EC4V 5AJ on Friday, the nineteenth day of March, 1976, at 11.20 o'clock in the forenoon, for the purposes mentioned in sections 294 and 295 of the said Act.

Dated this third day of March, 1976.

By Order of the Board.
P. A. RICHARDS,
Secretary.

In the Matter of IAN ROBINSON & PARTNERS (FINANCIAL PLANNING) Limited and in the Matter of the Companies Act, 1948. No.: 003080 of 1975 By Order of the High Court of Justice dated the 22nd January, 1976.

Mr John Herbert Priestley of 93 Queen Street, Sheffield 1, has been APPOINTED LIQUIDATOR of the above-named Company.

Dated this 5th day of March, 1976.

PUBLIC NOTICES

"In accordance with Rule 4(a) of the Constitution of The Ex-Service Fellowship Centres, notice is hereby given that the 30th Annual General Meeting will be held in the Council Chamber of the Royal Hospital, Chelsea (by kind permission of the Governor) on Tuesday, 13th April 1976 at 3 p.m. The President of the Fellowship, General Sir Antony Read, G.C.B., C.B.E., D.S.O., M.C., will preside."

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...Y'S. 930 6606. Evgs. 8, ...2.30. Sats. 5.45, 8.30 ...Hit African Musical ...IPI TOMBI ...musical."—Ev. News. ...ast is superb."—S. Times.
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THEATRES

PHOENIX Theatre Season. 836 8611. Evgs. 8.0. Mat. Thurs., Sat. 3.0. ROCK HUDSON JULIET PROWSE in "I DO! I DO!" Last 4 days. Opens March 17 for 8 weeks only: GLYNIS JOHNS LOUIS JOURDAN in 13 RUE DE L'AMOUR

PICCADILLY. 437 4506. Previews from Friday at 7.30. First Night March 23 at 7. BROADWAY'S LATEST HIT JEROME KERN'S MUSICAL VERY GOOD EDDIE "IT TAKES OFF. IT FLIES. I REALLY LOVED IT" N.Y. Times.

PRINCE OF WALES. 930 8681. Prevs. Ntly. 8. Sat. 5 & 8. Opens March 18 at 7. Subs. 8. Mat. Wed., Sat., 5. MARDI GRAS A New Musical.

QUEEN'S. 01-734 1166. Evenings 8.0 Mat. Thurs. 3.0. Sat. 5.30 & 8.30 Winner of all the awards for BEST PLAY OF THE YEAR Michael GAMBON in Simon GRAY'S OTHERWISE ENGAGED Directed by Harold PINTER

REGENT 323 2707. Evenings 8.30. Fri., Sat. 7.0 & 9.15 2ND YEAR OF SENSATIONAL STAGE SHOW OF THE SEVENTIES LET MY PEOPLE COME AN ADULT MUSICAL "Never a dull moment."—E. News 100 tickets held for sale at door.

RAYMOND REVUE BAR THEATRE 734 1593 (7, 9, 11 pm. inc. Sunday) PAUL RAYMOND presents THE FESTIVAL OF EROTICA '76

ROUND HOUSE "DOWNSTAIRS", 267 2564. MAN IS MAN Ton't at 7.30. HAMLET Tomor., Fri. 1.30. Fri., Sat., Mon. & Tues. at 7.30.

ROYAL COURT. 730 1745 Prev. March 15. Opens March 16 PARCEL POST by Yemi Ajibade

ST. MARTIN'S. 836 1443. Evgs. 8. Mats. Tues. 2.45. Sats. 5 & 8 AGATHA CHRISTIE'S THE MOUSETRAP WORLD'S LONGEST EVER RUN 24TH YEAR

SAVOY. 836 8888. Evenings at 8. Mats. Wed. at 3.30 & Sat. at 5. AGATHA CHRISTIE'S MURDER AT THE VICARAGE "A thoroughly enjoyable evening."—Kenneth Robinson, BBC.

SHAW THEATRE. 01-388 1394. Last 4 days—Evenings 7.30 J. P. DONLEAVY'S THE GINGER MAN

STRAND. 836 2660. Evgs. 8.0. Mats. Thur. 3.0. Sat. 5.30 & 8.30 Doris Hare McDonald Hobley Arthur Howard Barry McGinn NO SEX, PLEASE WE'RE BRITISH Directed by Allan Davis LONDON'S LONGEST LAUGH 5th Year

THEATRE ROYAL, STRATFORD, E.15. 01-534 0310. Evs. 8. Last Week. LAST WEEK SIMON WILLIAMS in JUDGE JEFFREYS "Fun at the gallows." Evg. Std.

VAUDEVILLE. 836 9988. Evgs. 8. Mats. Tues. 2.45. Sats. 5 & 8. Margaret LOCKWOOD Paul DANEMAN & Barrie INGHAM DOUBLE EDGE "IS FAR AND AWAY THE BEST THRILLER IN TOWN." Punch.

VICTORIA PALACE 834 1317 Evgs. 8.0. Wed. & Sat. 6.0 & 8.45 BALLET ESPANOL "SILUETAS" LUISA ARANDA & JOSE ANTONIO

WHITEHALL. 01-930 6692/7765 Evenings 8.0. Sat. 6.45, 9.0 PAUL RAYMOND presents Britain's No. 1 Sex Symbol FIONA RICHMOND in COME INTO MY BED

WINDMILL THEATRE. 437 6312 PAUL RAYMOND presents LET'S GET LAID Twice nightly at 7.0 & 9.0 2nd SENSATIONAL YEAR

WYNDHAMS. 836 3028. Evgs. at 8. Sats. 5 & 8.15. Mats. Wed. at 3 JIMMY JEWEL in COMEDIANS By Trevor Griffiths. "The most exciting play in London."—S. Times. Transfer from The Old Vic. MUST END NEXT MONTH

YOUNG VIC (by Old Vic). 928 6363. Tnt., Thu. 8 AS YOU LIKE IT. Fri. 8. Sat. 5 & 8.15 MACBETH. 80p.

YOUNG VIC STUDIO. 928 6363. Mon.-Fri. 8, Sat. 5 & 8.15. Bower Prods. in PHOENIX TOO FREQUENT/A SLIGHT ACCIDENT. (Final Perfs.) Thu. 10.30 & 2, Sat. 11 STAMP AND DELIVER (5-8yrs.).

TALK OF THE TOWN. 01-734 5051 From 8.15. Dng. & Dnce. At 9.30: New Revue. SWEET TEMPTATION and at 11 p.m. LENA MARTELL

CINEMAS

ABC 1 & 2, Shaftesbury Ave. 836 8861. Sep. Perfs. ALL SEATS BKBLE.
1: THE SUNSHINE BOYS (A) Wk. & Sun: 2.00, 5.30, 8.30.
2: BARRY LYNDON (A) Wk. & Sun.: 2.25, 7.55.

ACADEMY ONE. 437 2981. Last day. HESTER STREET (U). Progs. 1.45, 4.00, 6.15, 8.35.

ACADEMY TWO. 437 5129. James Mason AUTOBIOGRAPHY OF A PRINCESS (A) and LEGACY (X). Progs. 12.30, 3.05, 5.40, 8.20.

ACADEMY THREE. 437 8819. Marcel Carne's LES ENFANTS DU PARADIS (A). Show times 4.45, 8.0.

COLUMBIA, Shaftesbury Ave 734 5414 THE MAN WHO WOULD BE KING (A). Cont. progs. Wk. 2.10, 5.00, 7.55.

CURZON, Curzon St., W.1. 499 3737 BURT LANCASTER in Visconti's CONVERSATION PIECE (X). Film at 2.0, 4.10, 6.20 and 8.35.

DOMINION, Tott. Crt Rd. (580 9562) Burt Lancaster MOSES (A). Sep. progs. Wk. 1.15, 4.30, 8.00. All seats may be booked.

EMPIRE, Leicester Square. 437 1234 TO THE DEVIL . . . A DAUGHTER (X). Progs. Daily 2.30, 5.30, 8.30. Sep. Perfs. All seats bookable. No phone bookings.

GATE CINEMA, Nott. Hill. 727 5750. Mizoguchi's SANSHO DAYU (A) 1.25, 3.35, 6.20 & SPACEPLACE (U) 1, 5.45, 8.30 BALLAD OF CABLE HOGUE (AA) & CAT BALLOU (A) 11.15.

LEICESTER SQUARE THEATRE (930 5252). Robert Mitchum, Charlotte Rampling, FAREWELL, MY LOVELY (AA). Progs. Wk. 1.05, 3.30, 5.55, 8.25. Circle seats may be booked.

ODEON HAYMARKET (930 2738/2771). Dustin Hoffman, "LENNY" (X). Sep. progs. Wk. 2.00, 5.15, 8.30. All seats may be booked.

ODEON LEICESTER SQUARE (930 6111). Jack Nicholson in ONE FLEW OVER THE CUCKOO'S NEST (X). Cont. progs. 12.10, 2.40, 5.25, 8.10.

ODEON MARBLE ARCH (723 2011/2). THE KILLER ELITE (X). Sep. progs. Wk. 1.15, 4.45, 8.15. All seats may be booked.

ODEON ST. MARTIN'S LANE—ROME OF DISNEY MOVIES: THE JUNGLE BOOK (U). For info: 240 0071. Box office 836 0691. Sep. progs: Wk. 2.30, 5.45, 8.45. Feature 3.05, 6.20, 9.20. Bkble. Last day.

PARIS PULLMAN, Sth Ken. 373 5898. Herzog's ENIGMA OF KASPAR HAUSER (A). Pgs. 4.30, 6.30, 8.40. Ends March 10.

PHOENIX, Opp. East Finchley Station. 883 2233. ANKUR—THE SEEDLING (AA). Pgs. 4.00, 6.15, 8.35.

PLAZA 1 & 2, Regent St., S.W.1. 839 6494. Sep. Perfs. All seats bookable for eve. perfs. Box Office 11 a.m. to 7 p.m. (not Suns.). No phone bookings.
1. JAWS (A). Daily: 1st perf. 1.00. 2nd perf. 3.30: 3rd perf. 6.00: 4th perf. 8.30.
2. JAWS (A). Daily: 1st perf. 3.00: 2nd perf. 5.30: 3rd perf. 8.0.

PRINCE CHARLES. Leic. Sq. 437 8181 2nd Great Year EMMANUELLE (X) Sep. perfs. dly. (inc. Sun.), 2.45, 6.15, 9.0. Late show Fri. & Sat. 11.45. Seats bkble. Lic Bar.

RITZ, Leicester Sq. 437 1234. A WINDOW TO THE SKY (A). Progs. daily 2.00, 4.10, 6.25, 8.40.

SCENE 1, 2, 3, 4. Leic. Sq. (Wardour St.) 439 4470.
SCENE 1. Cont. Dly. 12.30. Lte. show Fri. & Sat. 11.45. Ken Russell's LISZTOMANIA (X). Progs. 12.30, 2.20, 4.45, 7.05, 9.25. Late show Fri. & Sat. 11.45.
SCENE 2. 2nd YEAR. THE EXORCIST (X). Directed by William Friedkin. Sep. perfs. Dly. 12.30, 3.00, 6.15, 9.00. Late show Fri. & Sat. 11.30.
SCENE 3. 2nd YEAR. THE TOWERING INFERNO (A). Sep. perfs. Dly. 2.00, 5.20, 8.40. Late show Fri. & Sat. 11.45.
SCENE 4. Cont. Dly. 1.00. Late show Fri. & Sat. 12.00. Ken Russell's TOMMY (AA). Progs. 1.00, 3.45, 6.30, 9.15. Late show Fri. & Sat. 12.00.

WARNER WEST END Leicester Square. Tel: 439 0791.
1 THE MASTER GUNFIGHTER (AA). Sep. progs. 2.30, 5.30, 8.30.
2 ALOHA, BOBBY AND ROSE (AA). Cont. progs. 2.15, 4.20, 6.30, 8.25.
3 OPERATION DAYBREAK (AA). Sep progs. 2.30, 5.30, 8.30.
4 AL PACINO in DOG DAY AFTERNOON (X). Cont. progs. 2.15, 5.00, 7.50.

EXHIBITIONS

CHELSEA ANTIQUES FAIR, Chelsea Old Town Hall, S.W.3. Daily 11.00 a.m.-7.30 p.m. until March 20th. Admission 80p.

CHRISTIE'S CONTEMPORARY ART 11 Albemarle Street, W1. 409 1307. Mixed Contemporary Graphics

ART GALLERIES

ACHIMMOELLER LTD., 8 Grosvenor St./Bond St., W.1. 01-493 4591. F. Sovak, gouaches, watercolours through April 15th. British and European Masters, Spring, 1976. 10-5.30, Sat. 10-12.30.

ANTHONY d'OFFAY, 9 Dering St., W1 GWEN JOHN Mon.-Fri.: 10-5.30. 01-629 1578

BELGRAVE GALLERY 17 Motcomb Street, S.W.1. 235 0066 ALISON DEBENHAM (1903-1967) Open Mon.-Fri. 10-6.

BRITISH MUSEUM, THRACIAN TREASURES FROM BULGARIA. On loan from the People's Republic of Bulgaria. Until 28 March. Wkdys. 10-5 and 5.45-9 on Thursdays only. Last admission 8.30. Suns. 2.30-6. Adm. free.

THE ARTS



Push comes to shove: Mikhail Baryshnikov (third from left) flanked by Martine van Hamel and Marianna Tcherkassky

In and out in New York

John Percival

That old commonplace about dance being an international language has taken a few knocks lately. There were always differences in the way we spoke that language on opposite sides of the Atlantic, and they seem to be widening, sometimes to the point of incomprehension.

Take, for instance, John Neumeier. Although born in Milwaukee he has spent most of his working life in Europe, mainly with the larger German ballet companies, and he has adopted European cultural attitudes as easily as his surname has adapted itself to a German pronunciation. Nobody would seriously dispute his standing as one of the best young choreographers in Europe.

But in New York, audiences and critics are mostly at a loss to understand what we see in him. Even Clive Barnes, who used to be one of us, is so acclimatized to the New York scene that he professes himself baffled about our enthusiasm, which I am reasonably certain he would once have shared.

Neumeier's latest creation, *Hamlet Connotations*, was his first for American Ballet Theatre, and in spite of an all-star cast of Baryshnikov and Bruhn, Haydée and Kirkland, it was not a real success. There were cheers for the performers but the dramatic structure of the work and its choreographic content were panned. Barnes even compared it less than favourably with Helpmann's *Hamlet*, which is really putting the knife in.

On the other hand, some outstanding American creators have proved to appeal to only a minority taste over here; I am thinking among others of Merce Cunningham and Dan Wagoner. Even Twyla Tharp, the top lady in the New York dance world at present, left many observers in London failing to get the point, to the extent of mistaking her dancers' immensely polished nonchalant professionalism for improvization.

I wonder what London would make of Tharp's new work for American Ballet Theatre, *Push comes to shove*, which proved the hottest ticket of their latest season at the Uris Theatre. Would her jokes prove too *Newyorkaise*? There was one episode for the ensemble where everyone seemed to have just one step too many for comfort. That could be funny anywhere, but clearly the joke is richer for those who are familiar with some of Balanchine's latest works.

At the heart of *Push comes to shove* is a hilarious performance by Mikhail Baryshnikov. In effect, he is playing the Twyla Tharp role: the little bundle of nerves and muscles, glaring out from a moplike fringe. Sheer energy is his *métier* here, manifested in sudden bursts of wild spinning or fantastic jumps. But it is put over with an absolutely cool *manner* and a vaudeville comic's timing.

In fact, Baryshnikov by no means carries the work alone. Martine van Hamel, just coming into bloom as a ballerina (I saw her charming Sylphide, and heard everyone raving about her Swan Queen and her Raymonda), has an aloof allure that is irresistible. Making up a trio of contrasted personalities, appearances and manners is Marianna Tcherkassky, small and pertly pretty.

Those three principals dance a wickedly funny *pas de quatre* with a black bowler hat in the prelude, which is set to Joseph Lamb's *Bohemia Rag*, and each of them leads one movement of the main ballet, which is danced to Haydn's "Bear" Symphony. Yes, the two musical styles do go together, thanks to the unfailing ingenuity of Tharp's invention. The mixture of tradition and irreverence even passes into Santo Loquasto's costume designs, which make the men wear woollen leg-warmers beneath their calf-length velvet pants.

It is easy to theorize on the reasons why New York loves Tharp and is bored by Neumeier. Balanchine's New York City Ballet, in residence most of the year at Lincoln Centre with a repertory based almost entirely on classical dancing, is one factor; so is the avant-garde fringe, much larger and more advanced than in any other city. A basic diet of those encourages different expectations in the viewer. Then, the whole pace of life seems *quicker*.

But in any generalizations one has to remember that the New York audience also has its conservative element. How else to explain the presence in the repertory of Agnes de Mille's long, boring and ultimately pointless Lizzie Borden ballet *Fall River Legend* after all these years? And nowadays there is not even the excuse that it is particularly well danced.

Curiously, another of ABT's recent productions, which potentially could appeal to both traditionalists and progressives, has not yet attracted many fervent devotees, although I suspect it is a work that will tighten its grip on audiences as they see deeper into its apparent simplicity. This is Antony Tudor's *The Leaves are Fading*.

Set to Dvorak chamber music for strings (principally the comparatively unknown *Cypresses*), it is a gentle evocation of youthful love, shy and tender. If that sounds an old-fashioned idea, I suppose it is, but Tudor handles it with a sharp insight into the way people behave and feel when a little uncertain of themselves which is perennially topical.

The main part of the action is a sequence of duets, beautifully varied in mood and pace. The movement all looks so natural, so simple, that one is lured into taking it at face value. It is only perhaps in retrospect that one realizes how immensely difficult some of it must have been.

Tudor, *of course, started in* London but has spent most of his career in New York. Is his work European or American? Or does it demonstrate that a few exceptional creators can transcend time and place?

ART GALLERIES

BOADICEA, 19 Beauchamp Place, S.W.1. Anthony Gross—Etchings.

CHRISTIE'S CONTEMPORARY ART 11 Albemarle Street, W.1. 409 1307. Mixed Contemporary Graphics

COLNAGHI'S, 14 Old Bond St., W.1. 491 7408. 500 YEARS OF FINE PRINTS until 10 March. Mon.-Fri. 9.30-6.00; Sats.: 10-1.

CONTEMPORARY PRINTS.—Royal Society of Painter-Etchers and Engravers Annual Exhibition, 26 Conduit Street, W.1. Until March 26th.

FINE ART SOCIETY 148 New Bond Street. 01-629 5116 EARLY ENGLISH WATERCOLOURS

HEIM, 59 Jermyn Street, S.W.1. Drawings by John Flaxman until 9th April. Mon.-Fri. 10-5.30.

LEFEVRE GALLERY.—Contemporary Paintings and Drawings. Weekdays 10-5; Saturdays 10-1.—30 Bruton Street, London, W.1. 493 1572/3.

MILLET COROT, DAUBIGNY Barbizon Etchings. WILLIAM WESTON GALLERY, 38 Albemarle Street, W.1. 493 0722 Mon.-Fri. 10-6; Sat. 10.30-1.

REDFERN GALLERY BRYAN KNEALE New Sculptures 2-25 March 20 Cork Street, London, W.1.

ROLAND BROWSE & DELBANCO, 19 Cork St., W.1. 01-734 7984. Keith Grant: Iceland & Ireland. Until 9th April. Mon.-Fri.. 10-5.30.

ROYAL ACADEMY OF ARTS.—The Golden Age of Spanish Paintings. Until 14 March, Tues.-Fri. 9 a.m.-9 p.m. Sat., Sun., Mon. 9 a.m., 6 p.m. Last adm. 45 mins. before closing. Adm. 90p; 50p on Mondays and after 5.30 p.m. on Tues.-Fri. and until 1.45 p.m. on Sun. Students and pensioners half price.

SERPENTINE GALLERY. Kensington Gdns. (Arts Council). A selection of Previous Exhibitors. Until 28 March. Daily 10-6. Adm. free.

TARANMAN GALLERY 236 Brompton Road, S.W.3. 589 7838 PIERRE LECUIRE SONNETS FUNEBRES Engravings by AGUAYO

TATE GALLERY, MILLBANK, S.W.1 CONSTABLE. Until 25th April Mon., Wed., Fri., Sat.: 10-6 Tues., Thurs.: 10-8; Sun.: 11.30-6 Adm. 50p. Season ticket £1.30 Schoolchildren, students, pensioners half price.

THACKERAY GALLERY, 18 Thackeray St., Kensington Sq., W.8. 01-937 5883. Mixed Exhibition including Frederick Cuming and David McClure.

The Times Special Reports.

All the subject matter on all the subjects that matter

THE TIMES

Today 3.00 & 8.00

"Most exciting play in London" (S. Times)

Jimmy Jewel in

COMEDIANS

by Trevor Griffiths

"Very funny" (Guardian)

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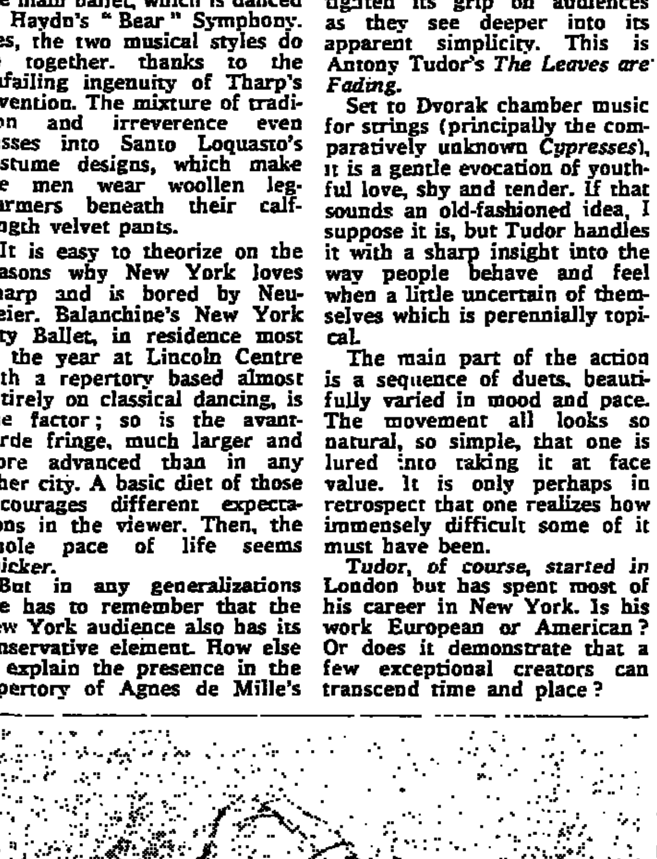
William Mann

For once the BBC's Round House concert on Monday did not include a major premiere. As usual, there was a modern classic, Schoenberg's Suite, and a neglected piece, Nono's *Cori di Didone*, which may helpfully draw attention to this composer's natural sense of drama and feeling for the (sadly *non-legato*) human voice, qualities still more powerfully communicated in the equally neglected *Il canto sospeso*, even now probably Nono's masterpiece. The novelty spot was reserved for Nicholas Maw's *Life Studies* for string orchestra, first heard at Cheltenham Festival in 1973, since when two movements have been dropped (temporarily, I hope) and one more added.

May described his *Life Studies* as musical reactions to non-musical experiences, honest periphrasis for a procedure that composers have always used even when public approbrium prevented them from the admission which would have damned such pieces as "programme-music". Maw sensibly does not let on whose lives are being studied, drawing attention rather to the set as an exercise in string orchestral virtuosity, studies like the *Etudes* of Chopin, Liszt and Debussy for piano, or Paganini for violin.

One might wish to approach these *Life Studies* in the manner of Elgar's Enigma Variations, portraits of particular people, or like Maw's own *Personae* for solo piano. The composer may call me imperceptive *but I doubt if they are character* portraits: to a sympathetic ear they sound like slices of life mulled over. The new second Study, for instance, admittedly derives from Chopin's Prelude. The music, a Bartokian ostinato against a slower melody, growing more excited, then dying away with persistent echoes, involves no obvious Chopin quotations but may quite well enshrine the composer's state of mind after hearing a good performance of the work: more importantly, it is a big, fascinating stretch of music.

No 3 is a tough scherzo, full of activity, out of which melodious sweetness sometimes peeps and in the Trio section completely emerges. That is not surely about a person but a state of mind and a musical invention. No 5 is chiefly a solo for plucked double-bass (played with clean pungent sound) full of natural dignity yet not unbending, quite undisturbed by the harassment of busy, close-packed upper strings: it might be a mighty oak unaffected by hosts of woodpeckers or a great man who survives every jibe and smear by the gutterpress—the music only particularizes on its own non-verbal terms and they are sufficiently strong, not to say attractive, to fit any head ready for capping.



Self-portrait, c.1910

Gwen John
D'Offay Gallery

William Gaunt

At the same time intimate and aloof, simple in choice of theme but subtle and concentrated in expression, the art of Gwen John has given her the distinguished place she would never have sought to claim, but rightfully holds, among modern British painters and draughtsmen. The loan exhibition of her paintings and drawings now at Anthony d'Offay's gallery in Dering Street, arranged to mark the centenary of her birth, shows all the personal—and also mysteriously impersonal—quality that has continuously exerted its spell when her work has been publicly seen.

The selection now given, including works that have not been shown before, represents her from the time she was a student at the Slade to that of maturity when she lived frugally in Paris. Something of English *Pre-Raphaelite* sentiment lingers—delightfully, it may be added—in the early painting *Dorelia by lamplight at Toulouse*, but in her most prolific period, the 1920s, what influence the art of others may have exerted is refined almost to vanishing point.

Some comparison with her brother, Augustus John, is perhaps inevitable. Mary Taubman's sensitive catalogue introduction says enough on this subject to point the great contrast between them and in her independence of spirit that refused to be dominated by his masterful personality. In fact the *main link between brother* and sister seems the Slade School and the ability to draw in masterly fashion that its discipline fostered in both. In Paris she may have taken example from Whistler's refinements of tone, though in such an outstanding painting as *The Pilgrim* (also known as *Woman in a grey cloak*) the restraint of cool colour and design reflects the integrity of vision that was entirely her own.

That Gwen John was no less an artist in essence than the great classical painters to whom the d'Offay catalogue relates her is an allowable term of praise, but it is no disparagement to remark that her genius was feminine, in some way bringing Berthe Morisot to mind. Her interests focused on her immediate surroundings and acquaintance, the nuns with whom she *had spiritual kinship, girls and* children who came within her view, a corner of her studio. Her style was of a corresponding kind but how little the quality was confined by limitations of subject can again be appreciated in the present choice. The exhibition continues until March 26.

Ives at his greatest

Boston SO/Ozawa
Festival Hall

Paul Griffiths

It was a splendid thing that the Boston Symphony Orchestra should have chosen to open their single London concert with a work by the essential New England composer, Charles Ives. That they picked his biggest and most challenging piece, the fourth symphony, made this an occasion for the warmest gratitude.

The fourth symphony is a consummation of Ives's orchestral practice, including as it does an almost well-behaved fugue from his Yale years, a boisterous romp through the debris of American popular culture, and passages of transcendental stillness. But it is equally a summary of his philosophy. In the prelude he puts the grand open-ended question "why?", to which the three subsequent movements make answers of a sort, all of them characteristic of the composer. Charley Ives, the boyish extrovert, is in the teeming quotations of the comedy scherzo, and Ives the steadfast searcher too. Mr C. E. Ives, the respectable man of affairs, is in the fugue, and Ives the seer brings the work to its mystic, inconclusive close.

On Monday the Boston players found all the fun and affection in the music, and every bit of the rugged strength. If they missed some of Ives's spirituality, that was because of practical circumstances. The lack of a chorus took much of the awesome serenity from the outer movements; and the constraints of space made it impossible to realize the effects of distance in the finale, where ever wider vistas should be unfurled. Nevertheless, the performance was a marvellous experience, and a great deal of the credit must go to Seiji Ozawa, who left the complex score unopened on his desk.

The other work in the programme, Brahms's first symphony, might have been included to represent that tradition from which Ives loosed himself so utterly. But even he could not have described this performance of the piece as "nice ladies' music". Here was Brahms red in tooth and claw, if that can be imagined, striding forward with vigour and purpose.

It was an opportunity for the orchestra to display their power and stamina, which were elating in effect. Their tonal finesse was less shaming to a Londoner: the flutes had something of the frail anaemia of recorders, and the woodwinds in general could have been fuller, richer. There were some beautiful calm sounds from the brass, however, and the strings were a superbly firm body, a trampoline for the springs and poundings of their energetic conductor.

Gotkovsky/Glock
Queen Elizabeth Hall

Joan Chissell

Neither the violinist, Nell Gotkovsky, nor her pianist, Sir William Glock needs introducing as an individual. As a duo, however, they are comparatively new, with an audience yet to win in the world at large.

That was not the only reason why the Wigmore Hall might have been a better place for their recital of sonatas and duos by Mozart, Schubert and Stravinsky on Monday. Their style of playing was of an essentially undemonstrative kind, not designed to make a frontal attack on the emotions of anyone sitting at the back of a large hall.

Understanding the point and purpose of every phrase themselves, they were content to let the music speak for itself instead of stepping in as high-powered interpreters. They took it for granted that they were preaching to the converted.

In Mozart's sonatas for violin and piano it is all too easy for the keyboard to dominate. But not so with Sir William at the piano. Balance was finely calculated in both K380 in E flat and K377 in F, and infinite care had been lavished on matching details of inflection and ornamentation.

Now and again, however, the suspicion remained that both players were a little too shy about taking the lead in characterization. Caution prevailed in choice of allegro tempo. And in K377 the central D minor variations were hardly intense or dark enough for the tempo di minuetto finale in the major to bring its full balm.

Schubert's duo in A might have benefited from a wider range of dynamics, especially in the sharp contrasts of the Scherzo. But tone and texture were limpid, and each movement found its right flowing tempo. Even if the gigue of Stravinsky's Duo Concertant did not emerge quite as the virtuoso showpiece the programme note led us to expect, the work found both artists at their most stylish and vivid, with expression enhanced by a rich range of tone colour. The noble dithyramb at the end was particularly moving and beautiful.

Ballet Espanol Siluetas
Victoria Palace

John Percival

It is surprising to find a dance company at this home of variety, but the Ballet Español Siluetas is really dispensing light entertainment that ought not to frighten away the regular patrons. Almost any number in the show could go straight into a revue.

I think that revue audiences might find the two big scenas by Fina de Calderón woolly and pretentious. In *Siluetas*, which gives the company its name, the dancers silhouetted at the back of the stage are supposed to express "the incommunication, the impossibility for them to abandon the imaginary jail that separates them from reality" until the Powers of Life (two other dancers in spotlights) encourage them to move forward out of the gloom. Yes, well.

In *Cancela* ("The Grille"), a woman dances with the alter ego of her suitor while he is sleeping, and afterwards cannot bring herself to fancy the real man any more. Quite right, too, if he cannot bother to stay awake at their rendezvous. Better than those ambitious episodes are some of the shorter dances, especially those in which Luisa Aranda appears.

She and José Antonio are the directors and leading dancers of the small company. Both of them worked with the famous Antonio, and the breathless biographical notes in the programme give him much credit for their development. But it seemed to me that both were more deeply influenced by the ballet lessons they took as children.

The balletic manner robs José Antonio of some impact. However much he struts and scowls in the approved manner, it looks put on. He has a nimble grace and good sense of rhythm but not, I think, the personality of a star.

Luisa Aranda's trim, almost demurely pretty appearance and neat style are appealing. They are seen at their best in the solo *Castilla*, full of *entrechats* and pirouettes. She and José Antonio between them appear in all but four of the 15 items, sometimes together, more often alone or with other *dancers, who number eight*, equally divided into men and women.

Musically the evening is undistinguished. There is an indifferent Flamenco singer and two guitarists, one with the not very Spanish name of Ian Davies who has also composed many of the numbers, all sounding much alike. The better music, mostly by Albeniz, is recorded. Only one of the dances has any decor, but all the costumes are rather attractive.

Don Juan
Odéon, Paris

Melinda Camber Porter

The Théâtre National de l'Odéon has offered a varied and interesting programme since the beginning of the season. Giorgio Strehler's production of Goldoni's *Il Campiello* was a triumph for Parisian theatre, but Michel Guy's offer of grants and a stage didn't prevent this sought-after Italian director from leaving after a week. The next import was Patrice Chéreau's production of Bond's *Lear* from the provinces, a common practice which continues to hinder the decentralization of theatre: most of the best provincial shows are eventually incorporated into the Parisian scene.

The next choice, Max Frisch's *Don Juan* brought back to the stage a dramatist, novelist and essayist who has been neglected for a decade. Frisch came over from Zurich to see the production, but did not participate in Miguel's direction. Contrary to the avant-garde fad for rewriting any play in terms of the latest ideology, Miguel remained faithful to the French translation (by Henry Bergerot), revealing his presence in the final scene where he plunges Don Juan from the seventeenth to the twentieth century. This *coup de théâtre* has little relevance to Frisch's attempt to show that Don Juan is not an historical monument, but an incarnation of a persisting mentality.

Frisch's Don Juan is a man who lives in the world of objects and ideas and who eventually turns himself into an idea and a mythology who cannot face the illogicality and paradoxes of people: love and passion are the most evident threats. When Don Juan falls in love with the Duchess de Ronda, he hides from his public, *loth to reveal that he has suf*fered the confusion of passion, thereby losing his status as a myth. The play ends abruptly when Don Juan accepts his role as father and Frisch suggests that the audience would not be interested in the consequent domestic drama. He implicates the audience in the perpetuation of the Don Juan myth and all that it implies. By transposing this final scene into the twentieth century, Miguel suggests that current society is more conducive to Don Juan's initiation into maturity than past eras.

The moment Miguel steps out of line he betrays his lack of sympathy with the text. Frisch's central idea that Don Juanism is a retreat into the apparently reassuring world of logic and objects offers marvellous possibilities for a transposition on to the stage. Miguel has ignored the core and concentrated on the anecdotal, exaggerating the declamatory style, piling up the *coups de théâtre*, and prettifying a play which does not need it. Miguel's lack of interpretation can be as destructive to a text as the avant-garde habit of cramming it with extraneous ideas.

Some of the notices on this page are reprinted from yesterday's later editions.

President Ford tries to resolve America's dilemma over the CIA

Keeping the best spies . . . and keeping them in check

The simplest thing that can be said about President Ford's reorganization of the American foreign intelligence effort is that he has made the buck stop more clearly at himself. Authority for covert action has always come straight from the President, through the National Security Council. Some would say it started with George Washington, but certainly it has been law since the 1947 National Security Act founded the Central Intelligence Agency and the CIA Act of 1949 protected the secret way it is funded.

But for years "plausible deniability" was the doctrine used to protect Presidents from direct opprobrium. It did not work when Mr Eisenhower was caught lying about the U-2 in 1960, but from now on it will not even be possible, assuming the new system works.

Mr Ford, for all his being an accidental President, could hardly shrink from the reforms after all that has happened since Mr Seymour Hersch revealed in the *New York Times* the illegal CIA trampling on citizens' rights through spying at home—but the subsequent disclosures revealed that the CIA was not alone and that abuses went back at least to the Eisenhower era.

Mr Ford added to the exposure by being personally responsible for the leak last spring of CIA involvement in assassination plots against foreign leaders—telling the *New York Times* over lunch, whence it got to Mr Daniel Schorr, the intrepid television reporter.

The rest of the world looked on with fascination and, doubtless, some foreboding as it all came spurting out to make 1975 the purgative successor to the year of Watergate. Mr Ford's task was to try to rebuild confidence—straddling a curiously split feeling at large in America in which people wanted reassurance that they were not being unconstitutionally spied upon, while also being reassured that their spies were still the best.

It is not clear how the President will succeed. But intelligence men who are respected dismiss alarmist claims that the CIA has been raped of its secrets, as if by an occupation army. Battered but unbowed by revelation of its failures—while protecting its names and its successes—the CIA presses on. "We have the best men we have ever had, at all levels", one agent says, noting that applicants for jobs are ever increasing.

The main uncertainty lies with Congress. Mr Ford has not ceded an inch to congressmen apparently determined to have their share of control. And he has ventured, in an election year, to tamper with the people's right to know by proposing criminal punishment for disclosure of secrets, however narrowly based is the proposed Bill. The Congress, as Senator Frank Church, chairman of the Senate intelligence committee, has promised, will not leave it at that. It seems certain to establish an "oversight" committee.

Mr Ford proclaims he has installed a new command structure. Memories are short. There have, in fact, been 10 major reorganizations since 1947—including the famous purge after the Bay of Pigs fiasco. In truth, President Ford cannot change functions without changing the law, and this requires Congress. What he has done, it emerged from reading all the fine print of his new Executive Order, is to try making more central, recentralizing if you will, what was supposed by its very name to be the *Central* Intelligence Agency, with its Director of Central Intelligence (DCI).

The DCI did not merely run the CIA. He was empowered by statute to be responsible for "correlation, coordination and dissemination" of all foreign intelligence, protecting his secrets and of performing such functions as the National Security Council might direct. Some of this was deliberately ambiguous, and ripe for abuse.

The DCI already has committees by the dozen to help him, but the system, say insiders, has not worked well, and men have been found wanting.

Presidents have prevailed on directors to intervene abroad even though the CIA thought it ill advised. And Presidents have not always got the best available advice when authorizing covert operations.

Dr Henry Kissinger, as national security adviser both before and after he became Secretary of State, comes in for much criticism, But he is only the most recent practitioner. The old system of covert actions recommendation lay with the so-called "forty committee" formerly the "303 committee". Dr Kissinger is said to have manipulated the advice, sometimes to the point of running rump sessions of the committee even by telephone. It was always at the bidding of Mr Nixon, of course.

It is here that a major change is being made. The "Forty committee" has been upgraded in membership—to include the secretaries of defence and state and the chairman of the joint chiefs of staff—with the attorney general and the director of the office of management and budget in as observers.

The committee has also been renamed "Operations advisory group"—and the title is intentional, meaning that the President will be advised of group decisions and dissents. one insider insists that such a committee would, for instance, have prevented the Angola adventure—which President Ford devised on the advice of Dr Kissinger, but against the advice of the CIA and of Africa experts at the State Department. Such a committee ought certainly to have prevented an earlier notoriety. The record demonstrates how easily Presidents Johnson and Nixon had their way with the CIA director, Mr Richard Helms: one suspects Mr Helms rather liked being answerable only to the President. Once in 1970 when given special instructions by Mr Nixon to rid Chile of Dr Salvador Allende—outside the existing covert operations channel, "Track II" they called it—Mr Helms testified: "If ever I carried a marshall's baton in my knapsack out of the Oval Office, it was that day."

It transpired that the secretaries of state and defence and the joint chiefs were not aware of "Track II".

Obviously only the character of the President and the DCI can prevent such abuses, and it is here that many questions are being raised about the new appointee, Mr George Bush. In addition to being a member of the "Operations Advisory Group" he is also, in another major change, made chairman of the single new committee intended to control the management of all foreign intelligence.

He will have charge—and no DCI had this before him—of preparation of the overall secret budget for national intelligence, the fund's allocation, and what is called "reprogramming", namely shifting funds from one project to another. In the meantime a deputy to Mr Bush is supposed to take over day-to-day running of the CIA.

If Mr Bush can manage it, this will be the major innovation, controlling all the agencies—the Defence Intelligence Agency, the National Security Agency as well as the CIA and others. One suggestion is that he move out of the CIA's Langley, Virginia, headquarters, and set up shop elsewhere to become overlord.

All the previous DCIs have stayed out at CIA, and become both its prisoner and director. Some have severe doubts whether Mr Bush, an amiable enough Republican politician is heavyweight enough to prevail in the titanic bureaucratic struggle ahead.

The proposals have naturally aroused the ire of those who wanted an end to secrecy, or who to reduce the CIA solely to intelligence-gathering. But the majority opinion, clearly seems to wish to maintain an American capability for covert intervention, even if people would like—as would serious men of the CIA—these interventions to be fewer and better.

Fred Emery

Bernard Levin

The 17 steps to press freedom

My readers will be aware that if the "closed shop" legislation now in its final parliamentary stages should be enacted without further substantial amendment, the question of a voluntary "Press Charter" to safeguard the rights of free speech in the case of entirely unionized newspapers will then have to be considered. As Mr Michael Foot explained in his speech on Monday, there are to be discussions among interested parties to see whether such a code, mutually agreeable to all those concerned and to the general public interest in the freedom of the press, can be devised; naturally Mr Foot feels that a voluntary code which all agree to abide by would be the best solution.

The Editor of *The Times* has already made it clear that he will take no part in any discussions concerned with producing a voluntary charter: since the Government insisted on removing all press safeguards from the legislation, he feels (as, I am sure, do many others) that the press has no business cooperating with the Government in drawing up a charter that is supposed to protect the freedom that the press was refused, and to the consequently inevitable inadequacies of which those who helped devise it would thereafter be committed.

Now all governments, of whatever complexion, are obliged to make plans, as far as they can, for all the foreseeably likely contingencies that they face. Mr Foot, in his speech, made clear that the only function he might be called upon to exercise in this matter is that of helpful friend to all; if, as he put it, the parties to the discussions are unable to agree, the minister "should step in and assist them and possibly advise them". If, however, there are many important and absolutely irreconcilable differences, it is possible, if not probable, that the parties may well turn to him to produce a charter for their consideration, and since, as I say, governments have to be ready for all reasonably likely eventualities, it is clear that Mr Foot could not face such a situation unprepared. Nor will he: I am in a position to reveal today that as soon as the possibility of a Press Charter arose, during the progress of the Bill through Parliament, Mr Foot and his advisers set to work to produce just such an instrument, ready for just such a situation, and the final version was completed only a week or two ago.

By means which I am, of course, unable to disclose, a copy of the complete text of this document has come into my possession, and I have decided, after careful consideration, that although it is only, as I have explained, a contingency plan, and will only be put forward if no agreement among the participants in the discussions can be agreed, it is of such significance in its picture of the Government's thinking on these matters that its contents should be made as widely known as possible; I therefore give it herewith in its entirety.

1. In order to ensure that the press shall maintain the highest possible degree of freedom, variety of opinion and ability to withstand improper pressure, it shall be the policy of all newspaper proprietors to make it a condition of employment for their journalists to be members of any recognized trades union, provided it is the National Union of Journalists, and any journalist who, having obtained employment by fulfilling this condition, thereafter seeks to resign from such a union shall be warned that such conduct renders him liable to instant dismissal without compensation, according to the provisions of the Employment Protection Act.
2. Should any journalist, after such warning, nevertheless persist in his obduracy and take steps to resign from the union, his resignation shall be ignored.
3. Should he nevertheless insist on resigning, he shall be dismissed without compensation, according to the provisions of the Employment Protection Act, but shall continue to be liable to pay to the union from which he has purported to resign all subscriptions, levies and other payments due to be paid by its members, until such time as the union in its absolute discretion shall determine.
4. All journalists shall at all times bear in mind that the capitalist press is overwhelmingly hostile to the interests of the workers by hand and brain, and shall therefore use their best endeavours to ensure that the workers' representatives, and in particular the trades unions and the present Government, are presented in a favourable light.
5. Any journalist writing anything that, in the opinion of the trade union and labour movement, is unsympathetic to the cause for which the Tolpuddle Martyrs were massacred by the hundred, shall be called before the National Executive Committee of the Labour Party to explain his conduct, and if he should fail to do so satisfactorily he shall be warned that repetition of such conduct will render him liable to instant dismissal without compensation, according to the provisions of the Employment Protection Act.
6. All journalists should at all times avoid in their writing anything which savours of elitism, divisiveness, middle-class values, privilege, educational selectivity, bourgeois attitudes, right-wing opinions or hostility to the true interests of the workers by hand and brain, according to the provisions of the Employment Protection Act.
7. Any journalist writing anything that, in the opinion of the trade union and labour movement comes into any of the categories in the previous section, shall be visited by representatives of the trade union and labour movement who shall take him aside and endeavour to persuade him to change his mind.
8. All journalists shall at all times bear in mind that the Shrewsbury two were imprisoned by a class-oriented bourgeois system of justice, just as the Tolpuddle Martyrs were massacred in their thousands. Any journalist writing disrespectfully of them, or of the Pentonville five, the Clay Cross eleven, or for that matter the Tolpuddle millions, shall be liable to instant dismissal without compensation, according to the provisions of the Employment Protection Act.
9. All journalists shall use their best endeavours to ensure that the hated Fascist Franco is driven from power in Spain and that his 90-year dictatorship shall be replaced as soon as possible by a coalition of workers by hand and brain.
10. It shall be the policy of journalists employed under this code to seek the nationalization of the press without compensation and under workers' control.
11. While it shall be open to any journalist to praise the courage of Alexander Solzhenitsyn, and to argue that the Soviet Union is a brutal dictatorship, it shall always be borne in mind that he is (a) not a very good writer, (b) liable to exaggerate, and (c) an elitist.
12. In all matters of interpretation of this document, or of any dispute arising out of it, a ruling shall be sought from the National Executive Committee of the Labour Party, whose decision shall be final, subject to a right of appeal to the trade union and labour movement under workers' control according to the provisions of the Employment Protection Act.
13. All journalists shall in general bear in mind at all times that they have a duty not to do or say anything that may bring the ideals of socialism into disrepute.
14. Any person purporting to be a journalist, though not a member of the National Union of Journalists, shall not only be liable to instant dismissal without compensation, according to the provisions of the Employment Protection Act, but shall not be permitted to seek information from any national or local government body, or any organization or firm in which the workers by hand and brain, or any of those workers, are members of a recognized trades union, and any such purported journalist contravening this provision shall be liable upon conviction to a fine of not more than £100 or a term of three months imprisonment or to both such imprisonment and such fine, especially if he lives in Barnsley or Sheffield.
15. It shall be open to any journalist to criticize the terms of this Charter, provided he gives six months' notice in writing to the representatives of the workers by hand and brain under the provision of the Employment Protection Act and then abandons his rash intention.
16. The Charter shall come into force as soon as it has been ratified by members of the trade union and labour movement, or by the National Executive Committee of the Labour Party, or by the Pentonville sixty-three, the Clay Cross nine hundred and four, the Shrewsbury fifteen, the Tolpuddle goodness only knows how many, or the workers by hand and brain under the provisions of the Employment Protection Act.
17. This is well within the terms of the social contract.

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How the world rang the changes with Mr Bell's 'electric toy'

As early as 1882 there was one telephone for every 200 people in Chicago, but only one for every 3,000 in London

Who invented the telephone is still a matter of dispute—even, across the Atlantic, of litigation. Yet there is no doubt that in March, 1876, Alexander Graham Bell shouted into a telephone transmitter in Boston the historic words: "Mr Watson, come here, I want to see *you*". There is no doubt either that his assistant, Thomas Watson, immediately came in from another room. For this reason, a commemorative banquet is being held today at Massachusetts Institute of Technology at which members of the present generation of the Bell family will be present.

Bell, who has proved himself both a very good publicist and a businessman, had already filed a crucial application for a patent in February, 1876, and had been granted it on March 7, his twenty-ninth birthday, three days before the successful demonstration. In the words of William Preece of the British Post Office, who 20 years later had to deal with the young Marconi, Bell had been working "with the true spirit of a philosopher" since 1872 "to make the discovery by which tone, intensity and quality of sounds can be sent". So had others too, and for longer. Yet Preece was sure, as he told the British Association in 1877, that Bell had to be accorded "the full credit"—he did not add profit—"of being the first to transmit the human voice to distances beyond the reach of the ear and the eye by electricity".

By the end of 1877 the telephone had already taken its place in the book of nineteenth-century wonders along with the phonograph which had made its way from Edison's laboratory. *The Times* noted with as much wonder as any of its contemporaries that it would now be possible to listen to the voices of the dead as well as of the living. In the small Canadian town of Brantford, where Bell lived, the local newspaper was more blasé. It was "only a question of time", it told its readers, before means would be discovered not only of getting into communication with the moon and other planets but of actually visiting them.

Much more interesting today than the whodunit of the telephone is the social and cultural prediction which surrounded it and the social, cultural—and economic—consequences which have followed from its use. It is interesting, too, to account for the great differences in the history of that use in the United States and Canada, where Bell worked, and Britain which he had left behind him. The history of the telephone has been studied far less intensively than the history of broadcasting, but it reveals similar patterns of difference between countries when they take up a common, shared technology. As early as 1882 *The Times* was publishing the fact that there was one telephone for every 200 people in Chicago but only one for every 3,000 in London. The gaps were to narrow in the twentieth century, but during the mid-1960s the United States, with half the telephones in the world, had nearly two-and-a-half times as many telephones per hundred people as Britain.

There are many contrasts inside Europe also, notably between Britain and France. The history of communications in France has always been a branch of political history, whereas in Britain—as in this respect, the United States—it has been a part of economic history. Indeed, the late development of the telephone in Britain—there were still less than 750,000 telephones in service at the end of 1911, when the Post Office took them all over—is accountable for partly by the fact that when Bell invented the telephone the British postal and telegraphic system was—for strictly economic reasons—the best in the world.

What is often forgotten is that in March 1876 when Bell summoned Watson, Watson could not reply by telephone. The Boston instrument could transmit sound in one direction only. Even later in the year at the conveniently timed Centennial Exhibition in Philadelphia, Bell demonstrated the telephone by reciting a Hamlet soliloquy. The dialogue came later, the chat later still, although *Punch*—an excellent guide to Victorian invention—introduced lovers' chat remarkably quickly with suggestions that kissing by telephone might be a further refinement.

The Post Office may have encouraged chat by seeking protectively—because of its monopoly in telegraphy—to prohibit the phoning of messages. Yet the business uses mattered far more in Britain than the domestic uses. The telephone was expensive enough to constitute a luxury, and even in Edwardian luxury homes, it was usually so inconveniently located in the corner of the hall or in the flower room or in a lobby between the smoking room and the gentlemen's lavatory that it was seldom used "for chats".

Queen Victoria, who warmed to it and to Bell, as she had done 25 years before to the telegraph, used it in 1879 to connect herself with the schoolroom of her grandchildren. Others among the rich thought of it as a superior speaking tube. Even the businessmen had odd ideas about its uses. Louis Crossley, the great Halifax carpet manufacturer, installed it in the pulpit of his local Congregational chapel, so that others, if not himself, could listen to the sermons at home.

There was a curious but revealing phase in the early history of the telephone when it was thought of as much as an instrument for broadcasting music, entertainment and sermons as it was as an instrument of private communication. Bell himself had been working on the transmission of music, and he dreamed of all Americans simultaneously picking up their phones one day and singing in unison *The Star-Spangled Banner*.

The first response of *Nature* to the invention was that people would pay subscriptions to some "enterprising individual, who will, no doubt, come forward to work this vein" to listen by telephone to "A waltz, a quadrille or a galop just as we desire". The Electrophone Company, founded in 1894, was designed to meet this need, but already Parisians had been able to hear opera on the telephone in the boulevards and Hungarians—in Budapest, at least—had been offered a full regular daily news service, spiced with advertisements—beginning with "what the papers say"—and of entertainment. They had also been offered education by telephone—not only language lessons but learned lectures from the Academy.

It was not the studio, of course, which was to be at the heart of the twentieth-century telephone system, but the exchange, and the broadcasting role of the telephone, for a time a matter of debate, was forgotten until broadcasting emerged as a "medium" of "wireless telephony" during the 1920s. If broadcasting offered a medium, the telephone offered a network. The first telephone exchanges appeared in Britain as early as 1879—Birmingham started with one boy operator—and within 10 years, when women operators had taken over, there was talk of fully automatic systems.

It is remarkable, indeed, how many of the technical and social themes of post-Second World War Britain, including automation, television, nationalization, privacy, social priorities, and the role of women, were raised between 1876 and the end of the nineteenth century. By then there was certainly no more talk, as there had been in 1876, of the telephone being little more than "an electric toy". It might not yet be thought of as "a necessity", but its existence, like that of so much that had been invented during the nineteenth century, was taken for granted.

So, too, were the trunk calls, although they constituted a small part of the traffic. The Post Office had taken them over in 1896, but during the very early months it had actually prohibited them. Communication between Bradford and Leeds, started by a Yorkshire enterprise, was vetoed from London. The first outside line from London itself—a 1884 was not to an industrial city but to Brighton. The creation of a global network followed, but it was not until 1956 that the first telephone cable was laid across the Atlantic. When the second was opened for service by Queen Elizabeth, five years later, the number of calls had multiplied more than fourfold.

This was during the age of what Colin Cherry has called "the communications explosion", and it was he who added the question "threat or promise" to the title of his book *World Communication*. The ringing of the telephone has sometimes carried with it threat just as it has sometimes carried with it "phoniness". Yet any centennial thoughts in Boston or London must surely concentrate on the benign effects of an invention which has never been as controversial as television. Perhaps that is why its history has never been adequately written.

Asa Briggs

Professor Briggs is Vice-Chancellor of the University of Sussex.

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The Times Diary

An evening in Merrie England

The tour organizer, from Bradford, who looked fetching in a black and silver outfit, told me his Canadian wife had designed the costumes and had had them made by the women of a Buckinghamshire village. "My wife is steeped in English history", he said proudly.

Al and Sal Frasca from Chicago almost wore out their Instamatic taking pictures of each other and their friends. "We plan to go to quite a few costume parties in this gear when we get home. Our kids will love it", said Al. "This foam rubber in my skirt is making me kind of hot", complained Sal.

The man who had sold the greatest amount of roof insulation in the whole of Alabama said there was a representative there from every state of the union except Alaska, which seemed strange; you might think they needed insulation in Alaska more than they did in Alabama.

As the guests tucked into their Hatfield Brose (chicken soup) and baron of beef (prepared slices from the freezer) they were entertained by the regular Hatfield House singers and musicians with a few madrigals and a turn or two on the sackbuts. "Actually," confided one of the chorus, "I'm an ophthalmic optician in Welwyn Garden City, and my husband's an engineer. But it's a way to make a bit of extra money, isn't it?"

The visitors were impressed by the atmosphere and the cabaret, but to be on the safe side they had brought their own entertainment also. As soon as the meal was cleared away and the Tudor singers and jugglers had retired, they wheeled on the Sidney Lipton dance orchestra, and 87 curiously dressed couples smooched and waltzed as best they could with rolls of foam rubber between them.

"Don't forget your passport pictures for Tanzania," the organizer reminded them over the microphone. Otherwise they would miss their next stop, an African night in Dar-es-Salaam—with costumes, of course.

Greatest

Muhammad Ali, the heavyweight boxing champion of the world, predicts that his book will be a knockout success. He is also set to take the film world by storm. And after that there are a series of lectures with titles like *The Power of Suggestion* and *True Meaning of Friendship* which 184 colleges and campuses around the world are queueing to hear. When he is too old to fight he will be the greatest university lecturer in the history of mankind.

Ali was running through his paces at a press conference yesterday, applying his familiar techniques of psychological analysis to the business of selling books. He only pretended to be arrogant and loudmouthed, he explained, to sell tickers and fill boxing arenas. Now people would have an opportunity to learn how nice he really is by reading his book "which contains many things I have never revealed about myself before".

"In the Islamic religion we have a saying that God is the greatest, and *I am not God*", said Ali modestly. "I am only the greatest in the sport of boxing." Even so, he admitted ruefully, it was hard to be humble when you had written such an incredibly great and wonderful book, and when you were so naturally wonderful an actor that you had made the whole world think you were a crazy bigmouth, and not a deep thinker at all.

"The man who has no imagination stands on the earth. He has no wings and cannot fly", said Ali profoundly. "The wise man can act the fool but a fool cannot act the wise man", he added sagely. But it does not do to exhibit too much wisdom at press conferences, he admitted. "You have to think small to reach average people", he said, looking at us philosophically.

Gambit

Foreigners are discovering that London is the place to get things cheap. Underwear raids on Marks and Spencers are already well established; now they are after our games.

Dawn Allan of Hamleys in Regent Street tells me that the French are now organizing day trips to London's best known toy shop. This year's invasion started in early February, and will continue until Christmas Eve. "When we see a party of 30 French schoolchildren bursting through the door, our first reaction is to run for cover. They spend anything up to three hours in the shop, and they have no shortage of money to spend."



By far the most popular game with the French is Scrabble, which is produced in French, German, Spanish, Dutch and most recently Afrikaans versions, to account for the varying frequency of certain letters in different languages. Richard Spear, chairman of the Enfield firm which makes it, told me: "A Frenchman buying the English version will be very disappointed." Naturally Hamleys stock the foreign editions.

Coachloads of French mothers and grandmothers prefer soft toys, and the Spanish will buy a dozen at a time of anything that has Tower Bridge or a Beefeater on it. They all go for jigsaws, depicting typically English scenes.

The Arabs want toys that are either very large or very expensive. A four-foot high cuddly lion at £375 is popular with them, and only the other week one ordered six model cars at £300 each to be sent out to the Gulf.

Missionary

John Bell is a film distributor who wants to bring a little light to the cultural wilderness he believes to exist in Britain beyond the frontiers of Shaftesbury Avenue. Yesterday he held a party at the National Film Theatre to launch his mission on the deprived masses of Watford and points north.

Bell's company has created British Film Theatre, a kind of travelling repertory of films made from successful stage plays, with the accent on British productions and home-grown casts. The Theatre has its premiere tomorrow at the Curzon cinema, off Piccadilly, with *Butley*, directed by Harold Pinter and starring Alan Bates.

He hopes the first seven films, which also include Harold Pinter's *The Homecoming* and John Osborne's *Luther*, will be widely seen in provincial cinemas. "They should appeal to the missing millions of the cinema", said Bell. "People stay at home because there are so few provincial theatres to go to, and because they are too intelligent to watch most of the films that go on general release nowadays."

The Eastern Daily Press has been uncovering industrial atrocities. A headline last week ran: Holkham Pottery fires 14 staff.

PHS

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hannel Islands

a Special Report







: St Peter Port church seen from the Old Harbour. Jersey : picking spring daffodils for export to Germany. Sark : Grève de la Ville.

Clouds lift as inflation provides own cure

by Patrick O'Leary

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ontent inflation provided its own cure. Income tax, the biggest revenue raiser, brought in more than forecast. Because of the economic crisis many wealthy investors switched money out of low-yielding equity shares into high-income fixed-interest stocks.

Few of the 125,000 Channel Islanders grumbled that their rulers had been over-cautious in taking steps to avoid an economic blizzard which blew over. Their affairs are conducted on good housekeeping principles, and 1977 could still be tough.

Mr Colin Powell, Jersey's economic adviser, says: "The potential vulnerability of the island to the impact of external forces over which it has no control makes the need for disciplined budgeting all the more important. Acceptance of new policies and new projects should depend on evidence of cash availability, not on an assumption as to future financial resources".

Guernsey does not dissent. There is a feeling that the *economic strategy pursued in 1975 was right and should be continued.*

An example of this caution is the decision in both islands to hold a census in April, only five years since the last, instead of waiting for the usual 10 years. Neither has any immigration control at point of entry, and there are suggestions that populations are a thousand or two higher than the estimated 52,000 for Guernsey and 72,000 for Jersey.

Since income tax is a flat 20 per cent and there is no surtax, capital gains tax, estate or gift tax duties or value-added tax, the islands are attractive to the rich.

Restrictions on settling in Guernsey operate through low-priced housing being reserved for genuine islanders. Otherwise it is necessary to be classed as an essential worker. Over the years 1974-84 it is hoped to limit growth in population to 7 per cent.

Jersey's target is to restrain the increase to 500 a year. Only those who will contribute to the economy, by skill, enterprise or paying *large tax bills, are allowed to* buy or rent property.

Alderney, which has its own States Assembly, although in the Bailiwick of Guernsey, has imposed even stricter regulations. Faced with seven people registered as unemployed, it has just decided to introduce work permits.

Other islands are concerned about unemployment, especially among the young, although it is far below the levels suffered in Britain. So far, what the islanders call the mainland has not exported its recession to them in the same way as inflation.

Prices are often higher than in Britain. Guernsey Gentlemen's Hairdressing Federation has put up the cost of a haircut from 50p to 65p.

Islanders are even more wary of any hint that Britain is trying to export its high tax rates. British emigrants settling after November 12, 1974, are deemed to be still living in Britain for capital transfer tax purposes.

One banker commented in the *Jersey Evening Post*: "My firm belief is that over the next few years we shall *find ourselves subjected to other forms of fiscal discrimination from the United Kingdom".*

Another shadow has been cast by the European Economic Community. The islands received special treatment in a protocol attached to the United Kingdom's treaty of accession to the EEC. Conseiller Collas, president of Guernsey's Advisory and Finance Committee, has said that, although common tariff and agricultural levy systems are due to be introduced in 1978, in other respects the Bailiwick is only very lightly involved with the Community

"There is no requirement that we should harmonize taxes of any kind. Arrangements for banking and finance are undisturbed and there is no change in the constitutional relationship with the United Kingdom."

Others in official and banking circles share his optimism. They realize that many in Britain and Brussels regard their low tax structure and offshore financial activities with disfavour. They are philosophical *about British steps to* make it harder for its own citizens to escape the tax net, but alert to safeguard the interests of old-established islanders and the banks and trusts which contribute to revenue.

They feel that any EEC threat is unlikely as long as Monaco and Luxembourg enjoy a special position. Attempts to close havens within the market could drive mobile money to places where it would neither benefit Europe nor be within its control.

Wishful thinking plays a part in this cheerfulness. Internal political pressure in the prosperous islands is low. Guernsey goes to the polls on March 24 but for those eligible for the electoral register only 50 per cent returned the forms. About half of these are expected to vote.

Much power is left with the chairman of committees responsible for various aspects of the economy, and perhaps even more in the hands of officials who advise them. As in other countries, the number of public servants has increased and is still rising, and so is expenditure. In 1976 estimates for education, *public health and social* security in Jersey total £16.8m, double the 1973 figure.

Nobody will doubt the Channel Islanders' determination to preserve the degree of independence they have enjoyed for 1,000 years. They emphasize that their link with Britain lies not through Westminster but with the Crown. The islands were part of the Duchy of Normandy before William the Conqueror invaded Britain.

Laws passed by the States of Jersey and Guernsey receive the royal assent by Order in Council. Presumably, if the Chancellor of the Exchequer tried to make a fiscal takeover of the islands, the Queen could call upon her Privy Councillors to defend them. What excitement there would be among constitutional lawyers.

A fanciful idea, but in the Channel Islands old customs are not reserved for tourists. The appeal for help known as the *Clameur de Haro* can be raised by any citizen to restrain another from allegedly infringing his interests until the appropriate court decides the matter. It *was recently used by a shop*keeper who complained that construction work near by was harming his trade.

Investors like area's respectability

Guernsey has about 45 deposit-taking companies holding more than £500m. In Jersey the figure is 35 companies with funds of £1,100m. Of that total some £200m is in foreign currency deposits and another £200m represents sterling deposits from countries outside the scheduled sterling area.

Nobody offers a guess at how many further millions are managed by trusts and similar funds. In Jersey alone 2,000 companies have been registered in the past 10 years.

Both islands acted to restrain the number of banks when, a few years ago, they seemed likely to take over the main streets of the capitals, St Peter Port and St Helier. They have also been forced to recruit most of the staff locally instead of importing them from Britain and elsewhere.

Bankers and investment managers like the islands. As one said, "Jersey is not too greedy". Tax is levied at 20 per cent on both personal and company income. There is a corporation tax, but this is only £300 a year, and is confined to companies registered in the islands but not controlled there, which do not pay income tax on all their income. Capital gains are not taxed.

When officials and bankers refer to the area as stable, they mean not only that it is politically quiet, but that investors can rely on consistent tax policies. Jersey's income tax has been 20 per cent since 1940, while Guernsey fell into line in 1960 after flirting with a higher rate plus surtax.

Respectability as well as stability is now prized in international financial centres. "People come from different parts of the world to set up operations here in preference to other locations", a Guernsey merchant banker said. "They do not talk about stability, they feel there is something respectable about this location. Also, it is close to London and easy to get to and from the Continent."

He rejected the idea that this harmed Britain: "We are convinced much more *money flows into Britain* through our operations than flows out. If anyone wants to transfer money illegally it is more likely to go through Dover than the Channel Islands."

The link with London will be reinforced when the Lord Mayor of London, Sir Lindsay Ring, a Lloyd's underwriter, visits the Channel Islands in May.

Conseiller E. D. Collas, President of Guernsey's Advisory and Finance Committee, said: "Our finance industry is of value to the United Kingdom balance of payments. As we have no central banking system of our own anything which we produce goes into the United Kingdom pool".

Officials emphasize that they did not deliberately set out to make the islands a sort of accommodation address for mobile money. Much of the expansion arose through policies pursued by Britain, over which they had no control.

Heavy taxation encouraged people to emigrate. In 1972, when Britain reduced the scheduled territories drastically, the Channel Islands remained in the sterling area. This increased their attractions, for accounts of non-residents of the scheduled territories are generally classified external in the islands, and may be operated with a minimum of restriction.

The banking boom roared ahead, and finally had to be restrained. At one stage projects which would have required 7,500 extra staff were planned in one island alone.

Although some of the companies which arrived during this expansion have discreetly disappeared, or were rescued by more prosperous rivals, major scandals have been averted. Depositors are protected by law, and Jersey boasts that one operator who has since been severely criticized was refused permission to open up.

Banks from Australia, the United States, Canada, and Holland, together with companies which draw business from the Middle East, Africa, Japan, Italy, and West Germany are among those established in the islands. There are even two from Hongkong and Bermuda, *places with their own* tax advantages.

continued on page II

Going to ive abroad?

st people who decide that emi- is the answer for them, believe matter which corner of the has taken their fancy—that l be much less wearisome and more prosperous once they et up home in the country of noice.

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New and vital navigation aids to shipping

by Bob Baker



Corbiere lighthouse, Jersey, which has recently become fully automated.

Living at the southern end of one of the world's busiest seaways, and visited by more than 10,000 private yachts annually, Channel Islanders are no strangers to shipwrecks and rescues.

Every year brings a new crop of incidens. Most are of a minor nature, but some involve strandings, sinkings and loss of life.

A contributory factor is the increasing amount of maritime traffic in the area—about 350 ships a day excluding cross-Channel ferries. Others include storms, fog, mechanical failure, human error, panic, ignorance, even blind stupidity and drunkenness.

It is estimated that since 1965 about 40,000 tons of commercial shipping have been wrecked near the islands with the loss of more than 30 lives. In 1974 Guernsey saw the stranding of the giant bulk ore carrier Elwood Mead on its maiden voyage, and the destruction by hurricane of the 2,000-ton Cypriot freighter Prosperity whose crew of 18, including a pregnant woman, was drowned.

History books and hundreds of barnacled hulks littered on coastal seabeds prove that the situation is not new. So much British shipping was being lost in the area that in 1723 United Kingdom merchants organized the building of the first warning beacons on the notorious Les Casquets reef near Alderney. Among scores of ships to founder there was the prized flagship Victory.

In 1744 its entire complement of 1,100 officers and men perished.

Today Les Casquets light and foghorn, along with those of Les Hanois, Guernsey, Corbiere, Jersey and the French Les Roches Douvres remain vital navigation marks. Jersey's state-owned Corbiere, for the past hundred years the most southerly manned lighthouse in the British Isles, has recently become fully automated, its keepers replaced by a computer system known as BAPS (Beacon automated processing system). Its refinements include an experimental direction and distance finding radio device coupled with a weather state indicator.

It is one of several new aids introduced in the area lately. Guernsey's newest is an automated direction finder installed at the island's La Villiaze airport with a "slave" extension to St Peter Port harbour signal station. Operating 24 hours a day on channel 16, the emergency frequency, the ADF, is believed to be the first of its kind working in British waters.

Within seconds of receiving a mayday call, or other distress message, the equipment produces the compass bearing along which the communication has travelled. Used in conjunction with airport radar in Jersey or Guernsey it is a considerable advance with an exciting development potential.

Both main islands, whose lifeboat crews have formidable records for courageous rescues, have new Royal National Life-boat Institution craft. Guernsey's is the 52ft long, steel-hulled and self-righting Arun Class Sir William Arnold which cost £150,000 and travels at up to 18 knots. Jersey has a similar smaller vessel Thomas James King capable of 15¾ knots and named after a former coxswain.

These are supported, if need by, by various publicly-owned and private craft, while in Guernsey—often the coordinating centre for southern Channel operations—the St John Ambulance has one of the world's finest collection of rescue equipment. It includes a high-speed marine ambulance, Flying Christine II, inshore rescue craft, fully-trained and equipped cliff-rescue teams, recompression units, and considerable radio communications resources.

The unit's facilities, commanded by Area Commissioner Reginald Blanchford, have been developed at a cost of about £70,000 over recent years and include a mobile radar van designed to travel to convenient coastal locations for tracking down stricken vessels.

With the blessings of several United Kingdom authorities the St John team is also conducting a five-year trial of a transponder device which, fitted to rescue craft, immediately indicates their geographical position on monitoring radar scanners. If the trials are successful similar transponders, already standard equipment on most aircraft, may eventually be fitted to every ship at sea.

For several years, liaison between the relevant United Kingdom, French and island authorities has produced significant improvements in air-sea rescue procedures and communications in the area. It is now possible for a search and rescue coordinator, usually the Guernsey or Jersey harbourmaster, to call on a battery of vice has been set up to monitor movements in the shipping lanes near by.

But while much has been done to improve rescue services, Channel Islanders have found it hard to forget the Torrey Canyon disaster of 1967 when 868,000 gallons of "chocolate mousse" smothered several Guernsey beaches. It cost some £35,000 to clean and left many people sensitive to the damage that could be caused to the local tourism-oriented economies by a similar incident closer at hand.

Captain John Allez, Guernsey's harbourmaster, frequently receives information about ships—some enormous bulk carriers and tankers—passing close to the island's treacherous, rocky west coast where both the Elwood Mead and Prosperity came to grief.

There have been some narrow squeaks. In 1974 a fully-laden supertanker broke down in fog in the shipping separation lanes near Les Hanois. Repairs were eventually completed and the huge ship steamed off into the night, its crew unaware of the sighs of relief from Guernsey officials monitoring its drift on a radar scanner.

The incident illustrates how vulnerable the islands remain to misadventure in the separation lanes, Guernsey and Alderney, established in 1964. The prevention of a major disaster largely depends on events in the outer world, on the enforcement of international standards of seamanship and the development of Anglo-French plans to improve radar and air surveillance of Channel movements.

Settlers attracted to tax haven

by Willa Murray



In Guernsey new building on the open market is allowed only at the luxury Fort George housing estate on the outskirts of St Peter Port. It was developed for wealthy settlers and is now almost completed.

The differences that exist between the individually self-governing Channel Islands are something that newcomers usually discover first when they go house hunting.

If you are not rich enough, or distinguished enough, to gain entry to Jersey, you can make the 15-minute hop to Guernsey where a different set of rules applies. Or you can cross to Sark, where buying a freehold property depends simply on availability and the consent of the island's Seigneur, or to Alderney, where there are no restrictions.

For tax and other reasons and not least because they seem peaceful havens the Channel Islands attract far more would-be settlers than they can take.

Sark and Alderney are small enough to deal with the problem simply by building restrictions. Jersey and Guernsey have had to devise systems of control that will enable them to absorb a limited number of wealthy settlers and essential workers without sending house prices soaring and building on their remaining green spaces.

Jersey's policy now is to allow in a maximum of 15 new wealthy immigrants a year after topping up any losses through death or departure. One of the qualifications is to be able to pay at least £10,000 local income tax at 20p in the pound, though other factors, including the house you want to buy, are also taken into account. Alternatively, you can qualify on social grounds, such as being a leading musician or artist whose presence would be an asset to the island.

Those who apply on economic grounds deal privately with Mr Colin Powell, Jersey's Economic Adviser, who satisfies himself that their assets are sufficient. Senator John Averty, the president of the Housing Committee, explains: "This ensures confidentiality—nobody else knows any details except perhaps the applicant's bank manager."

Settlers in this bracket are advised to look for properties of about £100,000 upwards to get the necessary final seal of approval from the Housing Committee. This figure is nothing unusual in Jersey—leading estate agents have properties in their books extending from £250,000 to £1m.

Young island-born couples find they must pay in the region of £15,000 for a three-bedroomed terrace house. When a two-bedroomed bungalow was advertised for £10,000 last year, the Jersey newspaper received 185 replies within two days.

Among nine additional and three replacement wealthy settlers admitted into Jersey in 1975 were Tony Jacklin, the golfer, who paid £165,000 for a five-bedroomed country house with a cottage and swimming pool in extensive grounds, and the Earl of Shrewsbury. The Earl bought a luxury bungalow with three bedrooms and bathroom suites, staff quarters and a wine cellar below for about £250,000.

Tommy Horton, the former South African Open champion golfer, is another new resident. Mr Horton, who spent his boyhood in Jersey, last year accepted the post of senior professional to the Royal Jersey Golf Club, and acquired a cottage-style old farmhouse for £37,000.

Immigrant essential workers such as accountants, top bank management and doctors are allowed to buy property from £30,000. Middle-management bank and similar staff must occupy company property in this price range, and can have a house of their own only after 10 years' residence. Some companies have had to buy houses costing nearer £50,000 for their staff.

Channel Islands estate agents report that property prices are on the move again after slowing down in 1975. This slowing down, which was more evident in Jersey than in Guernsey, was created by uncertainties in the United Kingdom property and stock markets and the introduction of capital transfer tax, now no longer believed to be any real deterrent for people wishing to settle in the archipelago.

It seems likely that some Jersey houses for sale at between £80,000 and £100,000 may come down in price. Mr John Wright, of John D. Wright & Partners, says: "Some people may have to be more realistic about prices in this range if they genuinely wish to sell their property."

Flats are available for sale in Jersey, unlike in Guernsey where they can only be rented. They cost from about £10,000 to more than £100,000 for a luxury penthouse, and the supply of luxury accommodation is limited.

Many estate agents feel the £100,000 price tag for wealthy settlers should be reduced, mainly because these properties tend to be larger than their clients really require. Mr Freddie de Gruchy, of de Gruchy & Co. says: "Why should a couple with no family be conditioned to buy a house with seven or eight bedrooms?"

Two-tier housing system

United Kingdom building societies do not operate in the Channel Islands, though the Jersey Savings & Loan Corporation and its Guernsey counterpart were set up to perform a similar function. The Royal Trust Company of Canada (CI) has recently introduced a building-society type mortgage scheme designed to step in where Jersey's states loan scheme leaves off—presently at £12,000.

Guernsey operates a two-tier housing system that has kept down costs for island-born residents more effectively than in Jersey, and has also made life simpler for estate agents and buyers. Nevertheless, the system has its critics.

Property is divided into open and local markets. The first is a pool of about 1,500 houses from about £30,000 to £300,000 available without restrictions to newcomers. Lower-priced local market properties are reserved for people with residential qualifications, or for essential workers under licence to occupy by the housing authority.

New building on the open market is allowed only at Fort George, a luxury housing estate on the outskirts of St Peter Port developed specifically for wealthy settlers and now almost completed. Prices there are from about £85,000 to £250,000. A house at £125,000 at Fort George is likely to have central heating, double glazing, three or four bedrooms, two reception rooms, two bathrooms, fitted kitchen, utility room and magnificent sea views.

But as Mr Gordon Miller, of Miller, Clements & Co, points out: "To a couple who have come from a 28-acre estate in Sussex, for example, some open market properties in Guernsey are twice the price they would expect to pay. What they are buying in real terms, however, is not just a house but a tax haven—and a pleasant way of life. We seldom lose people who decide to settle here."

Lovell & Partners, which operates in both islands, has sold Guernsey houses to newcomers who have found the qualifications for Jersey residence too rigorous, and have opted for Guernsey instead.

Lovell is the agent for one of the few Guernsey properties that equate in terms of size and grandeur with top Jersey homes. Havilland Hall, owned by Count Blucher, a German businessman, is up for sale at £400,000. It was built in 1775 by Colonel Thomas Flott de Havilland, an architect and engineer who built Madras harbour and drained the Punjab. The 50-acre estate also contains a farmhouse, farm buildings and a cottage.

Investors like area's respectability

continued from page 1

However, in the words of Mr Colin Powell, Economic Adviser to the States of Jersey: "It is still possible to accommodate new international banks and ancillary activities, particularly where they assist in opening up areas of business which serve to diversify and strengthen our position as an international finance centre."

Developments have thrown some strain on the legal system. Such innovations as the captive insurance company, formed to do business only within a group of companies or with members of a trade association, do not fit readily into a framework which began with the Normans.

Some laws have been brought up to date, and changes are being considered in others. One measure which had to be repealed in 1962 was Jersey's anti-usury law which laid down the maximum permitted rate of interest as 5 per cent.

While the spotlight falls on merchant banks, trusts and insurance companies, the extra work thrown on clearing banks is sometimes overlooked. The main British banks became established in the Channel Islands through taking over local private concerns.

Apart from normal operations, they provide a house mortgage service. Three currencies, Guernsey, Jersey and English, are virtually interchangeable in the islands, and the banks act as distributors of local notes and coins. Shopkeepers benefit, since tourists like to spend non-English notes before they leave.

Banks also help in tax-gathering. There is no official Paye scheme, but employers can make arrangements to deduct so much a month from wages to send to the inland revenue.

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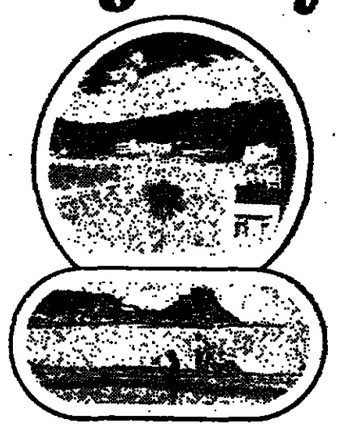
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صكذا من الاصل

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April could be a wicked month for the Jersey potato

by Patrick O'Leary



Jersey and ɔm Guernsey n welcome im- ıtain. But no more anxiously year than Jer-

ssuring to be C. Le Quesne, the island's ɔ, that he had his. Last year d drought cut stically and e a potato-less sey.

aincrop potato will restrict ıe local market ıey fear high courage people ır own, and dom growers out. Seed pota- o scarce and

the first nine 1975 potatoes 51m were rly twice the ıtoes sent over- owers had a ason, the usual g cut by half.

ıners' Union with the Bulb Growers' Asso- rear, after pro- ission. Mr Le there were rting coopera- e crops, and on le.

some main declining, he tomato produc- ssing. In addi- rops as cour- parsley were ular.

cases of foot- and-mouth disease no threat to cattle"; it says something for the anxious care given to Jersey cattle that this reassuring headline in a local newspaper appeared over a report of a suspected case of the complaint in a young girl. The human variety is said to be mild.

Known for rich milk, longevity and hardiness, Jerseys have been exported to many lands. But their purity of breed and freedom from brucellosis and other bovine afflictions have been guarded by a ban on imports of live cattle into the island since 1789, and subsequently of semen.

This isolation could be threatened by European Economic Community regulations when the present probationary period ends in 1978. Jersey Committee of Agriculture have made a case for retaining the ban, and the commissioners in Brussels are expected to reply soon.

Professor Albert Messervy, president of the Royal Jersey Agricultural and Horticultural Society, said the export trade in cattle was excellent in the immediate postwar years. But it had declined later.

"Some years ago I said the future of the Jersey was in the underdeveloped countries of Africa and the Middle East", he said. "I believe the origin of the Jersey cow was from the East, so it is like going home again."

The professor added: "Libya already has 80 animals and is considering further imports. Pakistan is interested, but there is no hope of meeting its requirements for two years. Farmers have not been registering calves because they were unable to sell them. Last year 1,000 newborn calves were slaughtered and used to feed zoo animals and dogs."

With a budget which has risen to £1m a year, the Department of Agriculture is one of Jersey's big spenders. But, apart from payments to help to keep the island self-sufficient in milk all the year round, most assistance to farmers is in loans and bonuses designed to encourage efficiency.

In both Jersey and Guernsey, marketing is seen as important in maintaining the leading role of agriculture and horticulture in the use of land and labour. In Jersey the flower industry is receiving help this year to sell to the exacting continental markets.

Looking down on the many glasshouses as the airliner comes in to land on Guernsey, it is difficult to believe the area of indoor cultivation is contracting. Nevertheless, horticulture is still the island's largest single source of overseas earnings.

Acreage under glass could fall from 1,000 acres to 850 in the next few years. But this is unlikely to affect the value of the tomato trade, which sent £15.7m of produce to Britain in 1975, some £3m up on the previous year.

This seeming contradiction is explained by investment in modernization, especially replacement of old glasshouses by new, and amalgamation of small units. A spokesman said: "Last year more glass was built than at any time in the last 15 years, 35 to 40 acres against 15 normally."

Some 95 per cent of exports go on pallets. This year growers switched from the former 12lb package to six kilos, not without protests. A more immediate difficulty has been a gloomy winter, which has held back crops and given another twist to rising fuel bills.

Geurnsey Tomato Marketing Board would like a regular roll-on, roll-off service to Britain for their wares, but this is uneconomic unless return loads can be arranged. Customers can be demanding. A board official said retailers like to see tomatoes with the calyx still on. This stalk is often knocked off in picking and packing.

A year ago, Mr J. A. Le Garff left the tomato board after being successively secretary and manager for many years. Instead of retiring, he is now bringing flower growers into a similar cooperative.

Mr Le Garff, whose office is on the edge of the airport which handles exports, said: "About 70 producers are now in, selling about £2m of flowers, which accounts for 30 per cent of total value. Roses, freesias and carnations are included; there are not so many daffodils now.

"Virtually all are grown under glass. Because of the weather it was a poor season last year when it was very difficult to get flowers to market in good condition."

Dairy farming in Guernsey is also being streamlined. An agricultural official said: "Today there are only about 150 farms. In the next decade perhaps the number will drop to 80 or 100."

As in Jersey, the island has its own distinctive breed of cattle. But a pilot scheme using Charollais has begun.

Sea fishery catches off the islands have gone up sharply in recent years. Guernsey exports crabs and lobsters, while Jersey has two commercial oyster farms with a third in the planning stage.





Last year Guernsey sent £15.7m of tomatoes to Britain, £3m up on 1974. Right: because of the weather it was a poor season for flowers last year.

ople who need fewer people

by Edward Owen

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arrangements to the Euro- uc Community slands are free h controls as apply equally unity nationals, ited Kingdom small island of just brought at permits for s. Jersey, how- ected the idea dward Collas, "Chancellor", as "bristling s".

While an overall population policy for Guernsey is being worked out, the task of immigration control falls in effect on the island's housing authority. This year it is cutting to 125 the number of new housing licences issued to immigrants (who include returning Guernsey men who have lost their residential status). Until recently upwards of 300 licences a year were being granted.

In both the larger Channel Islands a person without residential qualifications needs official permission to occupy any kind of permanent accommodation, even a furnished flatlet. Originally intended simply to reserve lower-priced housing for local people, these laws have become a form of immigration control, particularly in Guernsey.

As such, however, they are decidedly hit-and-miss. Despite the risk of heavy fines for both the illegal occupier and his landlord, the housing laws have bred the Channel Islands' own brand of illegal immigrant. There are reckoned to be 700 to 800 people illegally occupying accommodation in Jersey, while in Guernsey some politicians put the figure as high as 2,000.

In Jersey an immigrant "essential worker" acquires residential status after living in the island—legally—for 10 years. In Guernsey the law is more complicated. The qualification is to have been a resident between January, 1938, and June, 1957, and also on a certain day in 1968 ("the magic dates", as they are called); or alternatively, under a new law brought in this year, to have been born and lived most of one's life in Guernsey.

At present a non-islander occupying his home under licence in Guernsey has to stay in his essential work for 15 years before having any hope of being allowed to move either house or job freely—and even then it is at the housing authority's discretion.

In addition, Guernsey has just introduced what is the nearest so far in the Channel Islands to an immigration check on arrivals from Britain. Under Registration of New Residents law, anyone coming to live in the island must notify the housing authority—and likewise the person providing him with accommodation.

Guernsey's latest housing law is expressly designed to build up a more indigenous population in an island where at least a third of the present inhabitants are non-native. The housing authority has also promised to allow back more Guernsey-born people.

Nevertheless, it remains a touchy political issue that the home-bound Guernseyman has to queue for a housing licence, while a moneyed Englishman can buy his way in by taking one of a registered pool of higher-priced "open market" properties available for occupation by anyone who can afford them. But the economic reality is that, both in Guernsey and Jersey, rich settlers have become an important leg of the economy.

Employers in the Channel Islands have had to learn to live with the restrictions. Recruitment of staff is not just a mater of finding the right person, but of convincing the authorities that he or she is essential enough to be housed. Prudent companies now consult an official before advertising a job outside.

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Pattern of tourism is changing

by Robin Mead

Two personal vignettes of Jersey. The first: a brief summer stay, at the four-star Longueville Manor Hotel—arguably the best hotel in the Channel Islands—and being the only person to order a traditional British cooked breakfast in a dining-room which proved to be full of holidaymaking French families. The second: a chilly winter weekend at the Mayfair Hotel, whose owners make a speciality of cut-price off-season package trips where your heart could not fail to be warmed by a non-stop flow of food, drink, entertainment—and sheer fun.

The hotels and the occasions are probably as far apart as they could be. But those pen pictures go to show that the pattern of tourism is changing in Jersey.

Between the wars the Channel Islands were an eight-hour boat trip from Southampton, a breath of "abroad" which captivated an almost entirely British clientele of annual visitors. After the Second World War and five years of German military occupation, the islands surprisingly boomed again, with Jersey in particular earning a reputation as a swinging spot in summer. Business was good enough to give rise to the claim that in Jersey you will never meet a poor hotelier.

Regardless of the economic climate on the mainland and the heavy competition from Mediterranean resorts, the boom in tourism has continued. Now Jersey, just 25 minutes' flying time away from Gatwick airport by scheduled jet aircraft, attracts more than 750,000 visitors a year.

But that total hides two secrets. Last year an estimated 100,000 visitors to the island were from the Continent. The figures are high, partly because of the considerable efforts which are being made to extend the tourist season and to promote winter weekends.

Mr Leslie Rebindaine, chief executive of the island's tourism department, explains: "Continentals come here because, quite frankly, it is a jolly sight cheaper to come here than to stay at home if you happen to be a foreigner."

A comparison of prices in the Channel Islands with those in France or West Germany lends weight to this view. The exchange rates already make shopping anywhere in Britain an attractive proposition for most northern Europeans; in the Channel Islands this attraction is enhanced by the absence of value-added tax or any similar tax. For this reason it is thought that, in addition to the 100,000 continental people who spent holidays in Jersey last year, at least as many again visited the island on one-day shopping visits.

Such day trips are made simple by the excellent hydrofoil service which now links Jersey with the French port of St Malo, a service which has also encouraged tourists from other parts of Europe who like to drive to St Malo and then catch the ferry.

Even Scandinavians and Dutch visitors do this, although the Dutch also benefit from a direct air link with Guernsey. This link has established Jersey's quieter neighbour as a popular holiday destination in Holland. British Airways do good business with their twice-weekly direct flights between Guernsey and Amsterdam in summer. Mr John Salmon, the island's assistant director of tourism, says: "The numbers are so good because we have promoted ourselves there and this has stimulated interest".

It has stimulated interest to such an extent that one British firm specializing in inclusive holidays to the Channel Islands has been able to open its own office in Amsterdam. Mr David Smith, managing director of Preston Travel, says: "We now do a brochure in Dutch, and have departures from Amsterdam and Rotterdam. There is also a lot of interest in the Ruhr region, so we do a brochure in German, too, with departures from Frankfurt and Dusseldorf. We also have Dutch and German-speaking staff in Jersey to look after our customers."

France, Germany and Holland provide the bulk of overseas visitors to the Channel Islands. But the tourist authorities and tour operators are already looking farther afield, to Scandinavia, Switzerland, and to Canada and the United States (Guernsey reported considerable American interest in the island last year).

The overseas invasion coincides with the success of efforts on both main islands to boost spring and autumn holidays, and increasing attempts to stimulate winter holidays there. "The attractions in winter are the cheap package deals and the duty-free shopping", Mr Salmon says.

In Jersey there is an increasing tendency for hotels to remain open all year. With new building almost impossible, a number of old-established hotels have recently undergone facelifts — including the Central, The Royal Yacht, the Merton, the Agremont, and the Hotel de France where a big new conference centre stands on what used to be the front garden. A new purpose-built hotel, the Oasis, will be opened later this year on the site of a burnt-out hotel, and a £750,000 development is taking place at Jersey Holiday Village at Portelet.

The stop-go development of the 23-acre Fort Regent leisure complex in the Napoleonic fort dominating the town of St Helier is going ahead again. Its sports and leisure facilities include a new "dry-skate" skating rink.

Mr Maurice Segal, managing director of the Modern Hotels group, says: "I am convinced that Jersey is a place for groups in the winter—a place for fun weekends rather than for individuals". His company will be offering inclusive winter weekend breaks on the island next winter at prices starting at £42.50 from London.

Although that looks likely to be a price to set the pace, it is one which will have travel agents' heads nodding wisely. Three years ago a similar winter weekend package would have cost £19. The difference represents the one small cloud which the Channel Islands see in an otherwise sunny future.

Faced with a certain amount of public resistance against travelling by sea for a two or three-day break and restrictions on charter flights from Britain, the islands rely heavily on the airlines in making up these off-peak package deals. The airlines' share represents more than half of the £42.50 price quoted above.



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Gourmets on French leave

by Joyce Rackham

"Jersey—*le bonheur franglais*" ran the headlines on a recent French magazine feature, whose writer extolled the island's "marvellous lobster" relished the traditional pubs, and sipped its malt whiskies and locally brewed ale with relish. A writer in *Le Monde*, listing a fair selection of restaurants and lapping up the conger eel soup, even praised an English cheese (white Stilton) and admitted to tasting blonde Dubonnet for the first time in Jersey. Eccentricities like mink-covered bar stools, or a ritual evening toast to the Emperor Franz Joseph in the bar of that name, clearly delighted him.

Mr Bill Nunn, Jersey's marketing consultant in London, says record numbers of French tourists, on day trips and on holiday, visited the island last year; "Their influence on local gastronomy is considerable". Restaurateurs there agree. Mr Jack Kirkpatrick, who owns The Moorings, a waterfront hotel-restaurant in the old harbour of Gorey, a favourite among French yachtsmen, observed: "The French go mad about our shellfish; they eat mountains of it." He has his own lobster tanks. He also has an exceptional wine list, with a cellar of about 10,000 bottles, lovingly cared for by his Italian manager, Signor Mirto Sappe, himself a wine shipper. Their own importation of Muscadet keeps the French happy, as do their chateau-bottled clarets; and there are even three fine Piedmontese wines of note to connoisseurs.

Among the leading suppliers to hotels and restaurants is the Le Riche group, which owns supermarkets and has been a wine shipper for more than 150 years. The group's executive director, Mr G. A. Hibbeard, commented: "From our sales we know there are plenty of gourmets among Jersey residents. They are great travellers, and those retired from many parts of the world are used to cosmopolitan eating." This is a far cry from the idea—generally held by those who have never been there—that Jersey is a "chips with everything" place and simply a paradise for duty-free drinking.

With beer from 15p a pint, and the average price of a measure of spirits (larger than in Britain) at about 17p, the pubs are always crowded with tourists, who also appreciate the more liberal licensing hours. Local breweries, in Jersey and Guernsey, have to import all their raw materials. Beers in Jersey are stronger than in Britain and Mr Philip McElwee, head brewer of the largest concern, the Ann Street brewery in St Helier, says the draught special is sometimes too much for tourists with weak heads.

Most pubs provide well chosen, reasonably priced snacks and on a damp, misty day last month, we stopped for lunch at Les Fontaines, a fine old country pub with a welcoming open fire and superb fifteenth-century beams. We tasted the savoury Jersey bean pot (mixed beans marinated in pork juices) and were amused to see toasted sandwiches filled with boeuf stroganoff and chicken supreme.

Regrettably they had no wine by the glass. Pubs generally are not wine conscious, and, so far, Jersey has only one wine bar, an old-established cosy place run by Le Masurier in Bath Street, St Helier.

It is a pity that some of the loveliest country pubs are driving out potential customers by relentless piped music or juke boxes playing raucous pop, and that the ancient character of many town pubs has been emasculated by tasteless modernization.

Local businessmen, often offer good advice on where to eat without spending too much, recommending the Grill Room at the Grand Hotel for its table-d'hôte menu and in the Hotel de la Plage as well as the Hotel La Place, near the airport.

Jersey has an annual gastronomic festival every spring, and this year it will be made much more memorable when the island's first vineyard, now yielding its fifth vintage, puts its wine on the market.

Mr Robert Blayney, whose family used to own a century-old wine business in Newcastle upon Tyne, moved to Jersey when the firm was sold in 1968. He and his wife Ann now have more than five acres of immaculately tended vines around their old farmhouse at St Mary's. They have planted German vines: Muller-Thurgau "for quality", Huxelrebe "for its rich nose" and Reichensteiner "for the necessary sugar" and they watched anxiously as we took our first sip of the 1975 wine.

It is pale greeny-gold in colour, with a delicate flowery nose and much drier than most English vineyard wines, which need to have more sugar added because they are cultivated with less sunshine. The Blayneys invited German oenologists over recently to test their product and were delighted to be told: "With a nose like this, your wine is going to be good". They expect to have 50 to 60 dozen to sell this year under the label Clos de la Mare, the name of the first vineyard planted.

International influence on hotel and restaurant ownership in Jersey makes it possible to sample a variety of cooking, although bigger places tend to have classic menus. A few of the notable restaurants are the Dolphin in Gorey, whose young Jersey-born chef makes fine sauces and cooks fish beautifully; it has a good wine list. The Beach has a shorter, more adventurous menu, changed weekly. There may be terrace barbecues in the summer.

At Corbiere, the Sea Crest Hotel, a favourite with the French, is owned by Signor Victor Cornaglia from Piedmont and his English wife. The cooking is excellent with special *cannelloni* and well chosen wines.

La Campanning in St Helier recently received the only distinction given to a Jersey restaurant by the *Good Food Guide*. The owner, Signor Tino Rossi, comes from Friuli and the elegant Pinot Bianco from there is his house wine.

Many of the younger local people like the reasonably-priced Bistro Borsalino in St Helier, or the Bistro Paul by the sea at Beaumont. We ate a superb creamy-textured Jersey plaice, with a clean and cool Muscadet at the Old Court House Inn at St Aubin, which is run by three young people.

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RANCE MOVING LEFTWARDS?

er a year since *The* carried a leading he general political t situation in France. aps a failing on our does also reflect the there have been few major events to . While the other ies behind France—ain and Italy—have roused the interest of the outside world, e the election of M staing to the presi- very least since the Chirac as secretary the Gaullist party—et.

day, however, the was given to half the torate to pronounce seen as a mid-term Strictly speaking M taing is far from half his term, which has ive years left to run. nch constitution, as General de Gaulle's 962, is so ambivalent source of executive both presidential and y elections appear electorate a chance he government; and y elections are due wo years' time. The h so narrowly failed François Mitterrand e in 1974 will, if they ed, have the chance elect a parliamentary 1978, in which case d'Estaing would have point a government m that majority dicating much of the ow enjoys), or face a al crisis, or resign. ult of Sunday's vote exactly reproduced in the general election, there would almost certainly be a left-wing majority in parliament, since "left-wing" candidates between them won 56.5 per cent of the votes. The three parties which in 1972 signed the joint programme of the left between them won 51.7 per cent. Moreover, M Mitterrand's Socialist Party for the first time becomes clearly the most popular, with 26.5 per cent, while the Communists mark time at 22.8 per cent and the Gaullists trail far behind at 10.6.

The Government did its best, as usually happens, to play down the political significance of these elections—and it is true that the office of *conseiller général* confers even less power in France than does that of county councillor in Britain. Yet the turn-out of 65.4 per cent would scarcely be unthinkable in a British general election, and is certainly the highest in French cantonal elections since 1958. There can be little doubt that the voters responded to the deliberately political campaign which M Mitterrand and his party conducted.

The result must thus be seen as reflecting at least a certain impatience with M Giscard d'Estaing's piecemeal and largely cosmetic reforms, perhaps especially among the large number of first-time voters. (The voting age has been lowered to eighteen since the presidential election.) It certainly reflects anxiety about an economy which has one million unemployed and an inflation rate already uncomfortably higher than that of West Germany, which accelerated alarmingly in the first month of this year. M Mitterrand now has better economic advisers than he used to and is undoubtedly more persuasive on economic themes, while the President's reputation as a successful former finance minister is fading—and will take a further blow if the franc has to be devalued in the next few months, as many experts now expect.

Finally the recent efforts of the Communist Party to give itself a more credible liberal image may paradoxically have brought more benefit to its Socialist rival than to itself, since potential Socialist voters may now find the Communist alliance less risky. There could well be a snowball effect as the Socialist Party's greater strength makes it look less vulnerable to manipulation, once in government, by its Communist coalition partners. The President's chances of expanding his majority leftwards thus look less and less hopeful.

Much depends, therefore, on the continued cohesion of the Socialist-Communist alliance. A first important test will come with the second ballot of the cantonal elections next Sunday. If the Socialist voters fail to transfer their votes to Communist candidates where these are ahead on the first ballot the usefulness of the whole arrangement from the Communist point of view will be called into question. A second test will come in a year's time with the more important municipal elections, where in principle the Socialists are committed for the first time to running joint lists with the Communists throughout the country. This commitment will not be carried out without a good deal of anguish, since many Socialist mayors from M Gaston Defferre downwards have in the past owed their election partly to a strong anti-communist vote.

THE PROTECTION OF ADOLESCENTS

dence to the Criminal sion Committee on ences the National r Civil Liberties pro- ng other things, that f consent should be fourteen and that it the same for homo- d heterosexuals. The ciples on which these ations are based are law should restrict aviour only "where e parties to a sexual not consented," or al behaviour results able suffering or ther people". however, quite so iat. There is another at needs to be taken ration: that whatever kers may intend the law are often s symbolizing social disapproval. Where oncerned, that should changes that are dic- manity or common- e is a point beyond ty cannot and should be paternalistic in morals. With adoles- ifferent. Their values s are naturally more open to influence. It is true that the influence that matters particularly is that of their own age group. But the attitude of adult society is of some consequence as well. One should think very carefully before making a change in the law that would be interpreted as conferring the mark of approval on conduct that one would not wish to encourage.

But even if one leaves that consideration aside, could the age of consent for heterosexual *and homosexual acts be reduced without infringing the second* of the NCCL's own principles? Would this not remove or reduce the restrictions on sexual behaviour that results in demonstrable suffering or offence to other people? The easy answers are that children mature earlier these days, that many young people indulge in heterosexual acts without demonstrable suffering, and that if they are of homosexual inclination there is nothing the law can do about it.

Once again this is a bit too simple. There can be a world of difference between physical and emotional maturity. The evidence that children mature earlier physically is beyond dispute, but there is also no shortage of evidence that their emotional development does not keep pace with this earlier physical advance. It therefore becomes all the more important that social values and standards should so far as possible protect adolescents from the emotional damage to which they are the more likely to be subject from their earlier physical development. The disparity is the danger.

Nor should one accept too readily the assumption that homosexuality is simply a condition determined by the gods. In the case of adult homosexuals it is no doubt a condition which in the great majority of cases is not subject to social influence. But that does not apply to anything like the same extent to adolescents. There may be quite a number of them whose inclinations are not firmly set in a particular direction and who do need to be protected, again so far as possible from the advances of adults. The law should be changed in these respects only if an overwhelming case for doing so is made out. That has not yet been presented.

ER FINDS A HOME

rtists are well served us of their own. n portentous solitude, is more likely to be than enhanced. Van stand it; Rodin ; Thorwaldsen's life's irrecoverably chilled tistic (and actual) that he built. A smell or idolatry is almost inger in such places. who have an egoism unicates itself as re able to put them- s as prophets rather men are likely to the exposure. It is er of personality than merit. Constable is ot too far away from h and Turner. Tur- r, may get along well himself. He thought nd left his paintings n on condition that a ld be built especially Now we are likely to see whether he can. Yesterday's decision to press on with plans to turn the old Royal Academy rooms in Somerset House into a Turner gallery is a consequence of the great success of the 1974 bicentenary exhibition. Indigestibly enormous as it was, it gave a powerful impression of the momentum behind his work. Paintings from different periods, even the bad ones, illuminated one another: Turner appeared as a type of the romantic artist whose works become documents recording a struggle rather than self-contained achievements. As much as a major artist ever can, he looks inwards, away from his contemporaries and successors. The public reaction to all this may prove to have been only a temporary enthusiasm (though the less well-trumpeted exhibition of watercolours at the British Museum continued to attract large crowds until it closed not long ago). The availability of Somerset House just now creates an opportunity to give the egotistical sublime its head and see whether the public continues to respond.

There is bound to be a certain amount of manoeuvre now over the question of who should show what. Turner was prolific, and his legacy to the nation (which by restricting the dissemination of his work limited his reputation and influence outside Britain) means that the public collections have always possessed more Turners than they could ever show. But with three major galleries in London showing his work, some competition for the most famous paintings is inevitable. There must be no wholesale withdrawal of masterpieces from rivalry with Claude at the National Gallery or Kokoschka at the Tate. The new gallery must be allowed a few plums (perhaps sharing them in rotation), but it should be possible to illustrate the range of Turner's art mainly from the many fine paintings which are less well-known.

the Rent Act

is Holmes

itorial "Wasted accom- the homeless" (Feb- wrong to suggest that shortage of rented u and the failure of ties to provide accom- the homeless should by amending the 1974.

ssible to substantiate at 600,000 homes have wn from the housing result of the latest ndeed, since the Act the protection pro- approximately 600,000 enants renting from Hords, such a claim is plausible.

er of families coming h a court order, notice arassment problem has the implementation Act and this must uccess of that Act in urity of tenure to a of furnished tenants. not be forgotten that still obtain possession ts who fail to pay their eak the conditions of y agreements and in- f other circumstances. eded now is a determined strategy for providing adequate rented accommodation in terms fair to both landlord and tenant.

First, the rate of new house building *must* be increased, and local councils and housing associations must be given *more* resources for acquiring homes from private landlords and improving them to a decent standard.

Secondly, the legislation on homelessness promised by the Government must impose a clear duty on housing authorities to provide accommodation with effective default powers.

Finally, measures can be introduced that bring empty homes into occupation.

Yours faithfully,
CHRIS HOLMES, Deputy Director —Housing,
Shelter,
86 Strand, WC2.
March 2.

Cut-price conveyancing

From Mr L. M. Graziani

Sir, I refer to Mr Young's letter in the issue of your newspaper of March 2. I suggest that your correspondent—who Mr Young takes to task—was more accurate than Mr Young.

In the average transaction where the vendor is selling entirely what he purchased many if not the majority of solicitors slavishly copy the vendor's conveyance and adapt it to the purchaser merely by changing the names and the consideration. Why should this take more than "a couple of minutes"? In fact, I have seen an original conveyance altered in pencil by the crossing out of names and consideration so that the typist could type direct without the same being redrafted. Of course, there are exceptions, where for example the vendor was the first purchaser of a property on a housing estate.

What Mr Young appears to overlook is that many of the cut-price conveyancers have learnt their conveyancing in solicitors' offices and then have decided to set up on their own. Some indeed are Fellows of the Institute of Legal Executives who would normally handle a matter without supervision for a solicitor.

Although I am a solicitor I hold no brief for either side but I am opposed to monopolies and I do dislike equivocation.

Yours faithfully,
LESLIE M. GRAZIANI,
79 Cheap Street,
Sherborne, Dorset.
March 3.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Majority rule: portents for Rhodesia

From Mr H. H. McCleery

Sir, Historians will be puzzled by the worship of "Democracy" in the 20th Century. "Majority rule" or "one man, one vote" has certainly not produced freedom or even "democracy" in the new states that have proliferated in Africa since the last war. Of these, more than half now enjoy military government, and the rest are dictatorships of one sort or another.

I returned yesterday from a short visit to East Africa—a country I loved and served as an administrative officer for over 20 years in colonial days. Kenya seems the most prosperous, but also the most corrupt. Tanzania is poor and tatty, but at least its leader sets his face against corruption. Uganda, with its gallant and scholarly leader is a bad joke, and the plight of its native citizens very grave indeed. In all three countries people are afraid to discuss politics in public; all three would collapse tomorrow were the present massive doses of foreign aid withheld.

I assure you Sir, that as one who has devoted his life to trying to lead Africans towards self-government I have always taken their side when possible. But neither you, nor either side in Parliament, can see that Mr Smith has a case. How can he, elected to power by "democratic" principles however weighted, fail to support his side against the rest? And can't you see that, surrounded as he is by such chaos, "majority rule" does not appear to him the universal panacea that politicians with little or no experience of Africa, think it is?

In his *Approach to Self-Government*, Sir Ivor Jennings wrote that "democracy can only work when the majority can take a reasoned decision on known facts". Can anyone believe such a state exists in Rhodesia? A Congo or an Angola will help none but the Communists. I would go further than Sir Ivor, and say that "majority rule" rarely works in a mixed community, eg Ulster. One may ask why Westminster believes in "power-sharing" in Ulster, but "majority rule" in Rhodesia?

Above all, Sir, let us drop this "holier than thou" attitude towards Mr Smith. The fault is ours. We gave Southern Rhodesia internal self-government in 1923, and then conveniently forgot about "native interests" for 40 years. Had Mr Smith been less honest he would have agreed to everything and then, like several other present rulers in Africa, changed the constitution on attaining independence. He deserves our sympathy.

Yours sincerely,
HUGH McCLEERY,
Whitwell Way,
Coton,
Cambridgeshire.
March 6.

From Professor John Hutchinson

Sir, The objective in Rhodesia is a non-racial free society which all of its races will defend. There are three prime requirements: the protection of Rhodesia's borders against aggression; a constitutional guarantee of white rights in a transfer of power; and an allied decision to protect the future sovereignty of Rhodesia against Communist colonization.

In the absence of a swift and ratifiable agreement, the borders can be protected only by a return of Her Majesty's Government in force and sovereignty sufficient to deter the aggressors. Neither the negotiators in Salisbury nor Her Majesty's Government should be in any doubt about that.

White rights can be sufficiently guaranteed—as Mr Harold Wilson has said they must be—by the political counterpoise represented in the proposal for a bi-racial Constitutional Guard I presented in your columns on February 3 last. Rhodesia is also the place where the NATO nations can call a halt to the re-colonization of Africa. If they do not, the knock will soon be heard on other doors.

Yours faithfully,
JOHN HUTCHINSON,
Professor of Industrial Relations,
University of California,
Los Angeles.
March 4.

From Mr Clifford Jeans

Sir, Surely Solzhenitsyn was right and we have now reached a new low, when our Government gives aid to others in order that they may attack and kill our own people in Rhodesia.

Yours faithfully,
C. JEANS,
20, Parkfield Road,
Ickenham, Uxbridge,
Middlesex.

Poverty of the clergy

From Mrs Ann Loxley

Sir, The article "Poverty down at the Vicarage" (March 5), states that the clergy are becoming relatively poorer and that the trend continues. The conclusion is that this trend gives them the opportunity to witness to simpler and more basic joys than amassing possessions, and that accepting the call to poverty will bring them closer to the heart of Jesus.

I consider that this conclusion lets the Christian laity off the hook. I know that poverty and wealth are only relative, and that people experience different needs, but mine cannot be the only clergy family with children to whom this last winter has brought increasing anxiety and discomfort. In our house, built for the days of cheap coal, we have woken cold in bedrooms with temperatures down to 42°F, the children have had bronchitis and chilblains, and I have smiled at the "Save It" campaign—the thermostat for the partial central heating is set at 60°F in the dining room and is turned off as often as possible, the water is never really hot, and lighting is limited.

Long ago we accepted, and try to use creatively, these facts of our situation: we eat a diet of the cheapest protein, the simplest fruit and vegetables, with few non-essentials and hardly any waste; the children and I are clothed through sales, Marks & Spencer and cast-offs; the occasional bottle of sherry, or carton of cream, are luxuries; holidays are usually self-catering and never abroad; outside entertainment is a rare treat; help has to be accepted with grace; a car without which my husband's job would be complicated and mine inaccessible, is maintained with difficulty; a larger proportion of our income than would otherwise be desirable is spent on provision for retirement, because of low clergy pensions; if I did not work part-time, we could not continue at all.

Usually the task of managing is treated as a challenge, which with ingenuity and prudence, supported by faith, we meet. But to see even relative poverty dismissed so glibly, and to know that there is a taboo on the clergy telling the truth for fear that it is both embarrassing and self-pitying, makes me angry. In the financial situation the Church of England is currently experiencing, decisions must be made about patterns of ministry, and individual churches may have to choose between maintaining buildings or paying staff. How can the laity decide how best to use limited resources if the clergy don't tell the truth as they experience it?

Yours faithfully,
ANN LOXLEY,
12 The Orchard, N21.
March 6.

Solzhenitsyn and the West

From Professor G. H. N. Seton-Watson

Sir, There is some force in the arguments of your correspondent Professor Peace (March 5), who places Solzhenitsyn in the Russian Slavophil-Populist tradition. There are no doubt many things which Solzhenitsyn misunderstands and underrates in the West. Yet this does not mean that nothing which he says about the West should be taken seriously, or that it may not be good for us to see ourselves as others see us.

Your correspondent the Rev Paul Oestreicher (March 6) is right, as a minister of religion and as chairman of the British section of Amnesty International, to object to oppression in South Africa, Chile, Iran and Brazil as well as in the Soviet Union. Yet there is a difference between the Soviet Union and the other four, of which governments, whose first duty is to protect their own citizens, must take account: the Soviet Union possesses, and the other four do not, immense military power, *against which only one state* in the world, and perhaps not even one, can be secure. When Solzhenitsyn warns us of that power, and of the will to domination, and the moral nature, of those who wield it, it is possible that he knows what he is talking about. Let Professor Peace call these warnings "apocalyptic" if he wishes; but his assertion that to heed them "means the application of brute force, rather than intelligence, to world affairs" is simple nonsense.

Mr Oestreicher rightly says that "light and darkness cut across ideological frontiers". In all the great political conflicts in history, in war and in peace, good men and women with noble aims have been involved on both sides. One does not have to believe that "the West" has a monopoly of virtue, or that "communists" are wicked, in order to recognize that Soviet imperialism, many of whose servants are admirable persons, is a deadly and a growing menace to us all.

Yours faithfully,
HUGH SETON-WATSON,
8 Burghley Road, SW19.
March 7.

Foreign students in France

From M. Max Delacquis

Sir, I trust you will be kind enough to publish this letter, in regard to your article in the March 1 issue of *The Times* under the provocative title: "French plan retaliatory action against British students over fees increase".

The word "retaliatory" is much too war-like to be readily used in academic style. It was never even implied in the course of the discussions that took place between the Office des Universités and their British friends over the past two years. The word "retaliatory" was neither used nor implied by Mr Poujol in his talk with a group of French correspondents. The issue over fees increase, a matter of internal policy, was not raised by Mr Poujol. There is absolutely no connexion between that issue and the move of French Universities towards a new system of foreign student preregistration and a stricter control of their proficiency in the French language.

When he mentioned the unbalance of Franco-British student exchanges, Mr Poujol did not fail to observe that it was compensated to a large extent by the great number of French language assistants in British secondary schools. On the eve of our March 11 and 12 meeting with the British Council in London I am very anxious to state that we do not plan to solve our problem of reciprocity by reducing systematically the number of British students or trainees in France. We are simply planning mutual arrangements of a technical nature permitting to bypass the stumbling block created by our national differences in approaching the problem of financing students abroad.

Efforts will not be spared from both sides to increase the total volume of Franco-British student exchanges since they only concern a ridiculously low percentage of the total student population in Britain as in France. Our real problem consists in making international experience an integral part of higher education for every student, whether British or French, and, more generally, European.

Yours sincerely,
M. MAX DELACQUIS, Le Directeur,
Office National des Universités
et Ecoles Françaises,
96, Boulevard Raspail,
75272 Paris.
March 5.

Safeguarding freedom of the press

From the President of the Guild of British Newspaper Editors

Sir, It is ironic that the Barnsley branch of the National Union of Journalists should see to "black" four members of the rival Institute of Journalists almost on the eve of the passing into law of the Government's Trade Union and Labour Relations (Amendment) Bill. Such action, which has received the blessing of the NUJ's national executive, is an example and a warning of what is likely to happen under the closed shop provisions of the Bill.

In Barnsley, one of the institute members, who has been denied information from a number of public bodies, is a most experienced reporter, a man who has covered industrial and municipal affairs for many years, and whose work is recognized as of high quality. The union's action has resulted in the public of Barnsley being denied information from this man on subjects of the most important nature.

It is not surprising that the Minister of Employment has asked the union to think again, and has pointed out that the action might have more serious implications than either the Barnsley branch or the NUJ executive has so far appreciated.

The Guild of British Newspaper Editors has other examples of this kind which will be placed before the Royal Commission on the Press later this month, but the Barnsley case encapsulates the dangers inherent in the Bill, dangers to which the guild has repeatedly drawn attention during its passage through Parliament.

A free press is founded, among other things, upon the public's right to information and, I would add, to information provided without restriction and with as much professional skill as an editor and his staff can command. Each one of these principles has been trampled underfoot in Barnsley. In how many more towns and cities will the public be denied its right to the best service of unrestricted information once the Bill becomes law?

The Bill does not exclude journalists and editors from its closed shop provisions. The so-called safeguard is to be a voluntary press charter. The guild remains convinced that such a charter will be useless against abuse of the Bill's provisions from any quarter—be it union, proprietorial, political or commercial. Already the guild, in its constitution and its statement of principles, is committed to defending an editor's independence from improper pressures. In its present form the Bill is bound to intensify some at least of those pressures, and the only effective deterrent must have the force of law. In *today's climate nothing less can* safeguard editorial independence and, therefore, the wider public interest in the unrestricted flow of information.

Yours etc.
T. H. COOKE,
Whitefriars House,
Carmelite Street, EC4.
March 9.

From Mr Thomas Mitchel

Sir, A plague on both your houses! The freedom of the press was won and has been preserved not by press barons nor by trade unions, but by tough-minded individuals.

The Newspaper Publishers' Association and the NUJ (to say nothing of the IOJ) exist so that *their members may profit from The* Press as a commercial enterprise. The present state of journalism and of newspaper publishing is no credit to either. We must look elsewhere for the salvation of the Fourth Estate.

William Cobbett, about whom Hazlitt used that term, was a good example of what we need. Belligerent, busy, articulate, concerned, he was for more than 30 years his own man, editor, leader writer and proprietor of his *Political Register*, the first paper to achieve a readership of a million. What is more, he kept his paper going from prison and exile, through censorship and political interference; he was the last editor in England to be arraigned for seditious libel. He conducted his own defence and won an important victory for freedom.

Freedom in our time will be secured only by those writers who care nothing for fear, favour or fashion, and whose work compels the attention of the people at large (of Solzhenitsyn, Alexei).

Yours faithfully,
THOMAS MITCHEL.
Flat 1A,
6 Collingham Gardens, SW5.

From Lord Goodman, CH

Sir, I do not propose to exchange public (or private) insults with Michael Foot, but I ought to tell your readers that in the course of this debate I have not uttered a syllable that I do not regard as totally true—a view obviously shared by many others. I am sorry that my remarks have provoked Mr Foot into his outburst and I derive no satisfaction from the increasing volume of evidence that my forebodings and warnings were, alas, all too justified.

I hope that when the dust settles Mr Foot will view his tirade with some compunction and will have an opportunity of contrasting it with my own conduct of this debate. But I can at least hope that he will recognize that no amount of invective and abuse will prevent me from expressing views that I hold on matters concerning the public welfare.

Yours faithfully,
GOODMAN,
4 Little Essex Street,
Strand, WC2.

Monetary policy

From Mr G. N. Bancroft and others

Sir, Professor Hayek's essay on *Choice in Currency* (published last month by the Institute of Economic Affairs) is an important departure in the debate on monetary policy. Professor Hayek emphasizes a critical distinction: governments may and do issue money—but they need not forbid their citizens the use of *other* currencies, whether issued by other central banks, or other agencies. Indeed, this principle could be extended to permit contracts and transactions to be made in terms of any commodity, acceptable to all the parties concerned. Democratic governments would be thus widening the alternatives given to their citizens.

We believe there is a strong case for exploring the possibilities for opening up a choice in the field of money. We commend the setting up of a study group to this end, to examine, *initially*, the consequences of abolishing exchange controls, and modifying the laws relating to legal tender.

Yours faithfully,

G. N. BANCROFT, PETER LILLEY.
JOHN CHOWN. ROBERT MILLER.
PETER CLARKE, D. R. MYDDELTON.
ANTHONY FLEW, SUDHA R. SHENOY.
W. T. J. GRIFFIN, NILS TAUBE.
T. W. HUTCHISON, JACK WISEMAN.
GRAHAM HUTTON.

20 Clarendon Street, SW1.
March 4.

Nuffield College

From Dr F. Seton

Sir, *The Times* Diary of March 9, over the signature of PHS, contained a thoroughly misleading allegation purporting to be a report of a discussion on the emoluments of the Warden in the governing body of Nuffield College. The proposal to increase the Warden's expenses and entertainment allowance—last fixed in 1966 and acknowledged to be out of date as well as far below that of other heads of houses—was part of a package deal involving a simultaneous reduction in his basic stipend, whose total effect would have been to *reduce* total earnings. The questions raised in the governing body concerned the effects of the package on the Warden's personal taxation liability, whose relevance to the Government's incomes policy as stated in the White Paper is a matter for legitimate debate but not a foregone conclusion. At no point was there an intention to frustrate that policy—least of all by Sir Norman Chester, who was excluded from all committees and discussions leading up to the proposal.

It is right that our policy on stipends should stand comparison with those sections of the economy which are most assiduous in their implementation of Government policy, and for this reason we welcome the informed opinion of governing body members who wish to act as guardians of that policy. It is regrettable, however, that a newspaper of your standing should indulge in potentially damaging *allegations based on hearsay and* gossip without adequately checking the facts.

Yours sincerely,
DR F. SETON, Senior Fellow,
Nuffield College,
Oxford.
March 9.

Making prisons harder

From Mr Nicholas Hinton

Sir, The views of the Association of Magisterial Officers are reported prominently in *The Times* today (March 8). I am disturbed, not so much by their demands for a system of "Russian-type labour camps" and the like which defy all we know about human behaviour in institutions, but by the totally irresponsible accusations made of probation officers, social workers, and the naive generalization about the police.

The association represents 3,300 court staff who with others are responsible for the administration of justice. What sort of justice can we expect when this association is so ready to see the probation service as identifying with "the anarchic exponents of the alternative society", or is pressing for prisons to be made "sufficiently nasty"? Justice is in grave danger if we allow the attitude of the police, the magistrates, probation officers, courts' staff, social workers, judges and others involved in criminal justice and the treatment of offenders to become polarized between those taking a hard line and those taking a soft line irrespective of the circumstances of any individual defendant.

The problems presented by the considerable increase in crime can only be dealt with if all those involved are working to the same end. This is manifestly not the case, and in part because penal policy in this country lacks a clear sense of direction and purpose.

Yours faithfully,
NICHOLAS HINTON, Director,
National Association for the Care and Resettlement of Offenders,
125 Kennington Park Road, SE11.
March 8.

Closure of Hafod Meurig

From the Chairman of the National Association of Probation Officers

Sir, The plea by Lord Hunt and others (February 26) for the reconsideration of priorities in the allocation of funds for activities such as those to be lost with the closure of Hafod Meurig, will find an echo in this association and in every organization concerned with more than a pretence of progress.

Of what use is legislation such as the Children and Young Persons Act of 1969 or the initiation of intermediate treatment if there is little more than promise and economic cutbacks make nonsense of performance.

The escalating cost of crime is likely to outweigh any of the more hopeful expenditure on its prevention and at a time when the more traditional forms of retribution are not cost effective one wonders why we cannot get our priorities right. Is it prejudice or mismanagement of the economy?

Perhaps we should recommend the temporary use of Hafod Meurig as an outdoor health centre for tired economic advisers.

Yours faithfully,
KENNETH HOWE, Chairman,
National Association of Probation Officers,
1st Floor, Ambassador House,
Brigstock Road,
Thornton Heath, Surrey.
February 26.

COURT CIRCULAR

BUCKINGHAM PALACE

March 9: The Queen held an Investiture at Buckingham Palace this morning.

The Right Hon Harold Wilson, MP (Prime Minister and First Lord of the Treasury) had an audience of Her Majesty this evening.

The Duke of Edinburgh was present at a dinner of the Thirty Club at Claridges this evening and was received by the President (Mr Nicholas Royds).

Lord Rupert Nevill was in attendance.

The Princess Anne, Mrs Mark Phillips, Patron of the Riding for the Disabled Association, was present at luncheon today with Members of the Council and County Representatives of the Association at Saddlers' Hall.

Miss Rowena Brassey was in attendance.

The Lady Susan Hussey has succeeded Mrs John Dugdale as Lady in Waiting to The Queen.

KENSINGTON PALACE

March 9: The Princess Margaret, Countess of Snowdon, Colonel-in-Chief 15th/19th The King's Royal Hussars, today received Lieutenant-Colonel Richard Coxwell-Rogers on relinquishing his appointment as Commanding Officer of the Regiment, and Lieutenant-Colonel Rupert McCarthy on assuming this appointment.

Prince Edward is 12 today.

The Duchess of Kent will open an exhibition of paintings by New South Wales artists at New South Wales House, Strand, on May 26.

Forthcoming marriages

Mr D. P. A. Critchley-Salmonson and Miss A. J. Willoughby
The engagement is announced between Denis Critchley-Salmonson, Coldstream Guards, son of Major and Mrs J. A. M. Critchley-Salmonson, of the Manor House, Great Barton, Suffolk, and Jane, elder daughter of Lieutenant-Colonel the Hon H. E. C. and Mrs Willoughby, of Buckhold Farm, Pangbourne, Berkshire.

Mr D. P. Bennett and Miss J. M. Todd
The engagement is announced between Donald Paul Bennett, elder son of Mr and Mrs D. W. L. Bennett, of Carterton, Oxfordshire, and Joanna Mary Todd, elder daughter of Mr and Mrs A. H. J. Todd, of Purley, Surrey.

Mr J. G. C. C. Campbell and Miss E. A. Main
The engagement is announced between Julian, younger son of Mr and Mrs A. C. Campbell, of Lewes, Sussex, and Elizabeth, daughter of Major and Mrs A. R. Main, of Rumshaugh, Northumberland.

Commander C. A. Canham, RN, and Miss J. M. Garrod
The engagement is announced between Colin Archibald Canham, DSC, RN, and Jennifer Mary Garrod, MBE.

Mr B. L. Carroll and Miss M. L. Mart
The engagement is announced between Brian, son of Lieutenant-Colonel and Mrs P. B. J. A. Carroll, of Cheltenham, Gloucestershire, and Lesley, elder daughter of Major and Mrs D. W. Mart, of Felixstowe, Suffolk.

Mr S. N. Cox and Miss A. E. Belton
The engagement is announced between Nigel, son of Mrs C. H. Cox, of Hadley Wood, Hertfordshire and Anne, daughter of Mr and Mrs T. K. Belton, of Oxted, Surrey.

Mr P. E. M. Fuller and Miss V. J. Beale
The engagement is announced between Patrick, elder son of Mr and Mrs T. E. M. Fuller, of Edgbaston, Birmingham, and Vivian, younger daughter of the late Mr J. G. Beale and Mrs P. Beale, of Edgbaston, Birmingham.

Mr C. P. Ranson and Miss A. R. Fowler
The engagement is announced between Christopher, son of Mrs Marion Ranson, of Points, Thorrington, Essex, and Angela, daughter of Mr and Mrs Geoffrey Fowler, of Castle Hale, Painswick, Gloucestershire.

Mr T. E. Coote and Miss J. W. Cumming
The engagement is announced between Terence, younger son of Rear-Admiral Sir John and Lady Coote, of Monkton House, Melksham, Wiltshire, and Jennifer, only daughter of Mrs Cumming and the late Mr H. B. Cumming, of Bulawayo, Rhodesia.

Mr G. J. Brooke and Miss R. J. Peacocke
The engagement is announced between George John, younger son of Commander and Mrs Henry Brooke, of Benbow, Bosham, Chichester, and Rosemary Jane, daughter of the Rev Dr A. R. Peacocke, Dean of Clare College, and of Mrs Peacocke, 70 Gough Way, Cambridge.

Mr J. K. Cooke and Miss R-A. C. Mason
The engagement is announced between Jonathan Cooke, of Woluwe Saint Pierre, Brussels, elder son of Mr and Mrs Richard Cooke, of St Albans, Hertfordshire, and Rosemary-Ann Christine, daughter of Mr and Mrs Geoffrey Mason, of Wynnstay Gardens, Kensington, W8.

Mr M. K. Edgar and Miss S. M. Woolrych
The engagement is announced between Martin Keithock, son of the late Lieutenant-Colonel J. D. Edgar, Royal Engineers, and of Mrs Edgar, of Wimbledon, and Susan Mary, eldest daughter of Captain G. J. Woolrych, Royal Australian Navy, and Mrs Woolrych, of Canberra, Australia.

Capt K. A. Peacock and Miss S. M. E. Kielty
The engagement is announced between Kenneth Andrew Peacock, The Prince of Wales's Own Regiment of Yorkshire, only son of the late Mr and Mrs K. A. Peacock, of Kingston upon Thames, Surrey, and Margot, only daughter of Mr and Mrs J. G. Kielty, of Brondesbury Park, London, NW2.

Mr A. H. Peppé and Miss E. Whittington
The engagement is announced between Adam Henry, second son of Mrs Peppé and the late Lieutenant-Colonel W. T. H. Peppé, of Castle Cottage, Clun, and Elizabeth, third daughter of Mr and Mrs C. R. Whittington, of Brampton Bryan, Shropshire.

Mr A. M. N. Shaw and Miss I. G. Mart
The engagement is announced between Antony, elder son of Mr H. A. Shaw, OBE, of Regent's Park, London, and Mrs R. Saudbach, of Benenden, Kent, and Gilly, younger daughter of Major and Mrs D. W. Mart, of Felixstowe, Suffolk.

Science report

Palaeontology: Earliest vertebrates

The chance discovery of fossilized fish remains in 500 million-year-old rocks from Spitsbergen has pushed the vertebrate record back at least 20 million years.

The existence of the fish, *Anetolepis heintzi*, a new species, indirectly supports speculation that there may be close evolutionary links between the vertebrates and the echinoderms, or sea urchins.

The new fossils, from a Lower Ordovician marine limestone, were discovered by chance during a routine search for commoner invertebrate specimens. They are about 1 to 2 millimetres long and have been identified as fragmented plates from the outer surface of the fish.

The discovery, made by Dr R. A. Fortey of the British Museum, and Dr T. Bockelei of the Palaeontological Museum in Oslo, throws more light on two puzzling aspects of early vertebrate evolution.

The first concerns the development of the external skeleton common to all early fish species. The delicate and fragile nature of the plates from the new species suggests that the heavy armour plating associated with Middle Ordovician and younger forms was a late evolutionary departure, and did not, as had been believed, evolve directly from the external skeleton of an invertebrate group. An alternative is that the vertebrate skeleton was a spontaneous development, perhaps in response to the excess deposition of phosphate minerals within the body.

The second area thrown open for wider debate rests on the unexpected marine associations of the find: hitherto most earliest fish species have been recovered from rocks deposited in brackish or fresh water. The evidence for a marine origin for vertebrates supports speculation that the earliest forms are closely linked with the echinoderms, sea creatures which first appeared in the earliest Cambrian about 600 million years ago.

Impressions of organic tracts on the inside surfaces of peculiar fossils called carpoids, long regarded as a kind of echinoderm, suggest that the internal development of the creatures closely paralleled that of a primitive marine chordate species known as *Amphioxus*. *Amphioxus* is recognized as ancestral to vertebrate fishes, and it looks as though the echinoderms and vertebrates, classified as separate phyla, may belong in the same "superphylum". The idea of "superphyla" is gaining ground among workers finding associations between early forms conventionally consigned to entirely separate groups.

Aside from that speculation, the discovery of *Anetolepis heintzi* will stimulate closer studies of marine Cambrian sediments, leading to more possible finds. The lack of evidence to date arises largely because the earliest forms have been expected only in freshwater rocks, poor in all fossils throughout the Cambrian.

Further work on the Spitsbergen limestones could reveal undisturbed specimens of *Anetolepis* preserved on bedding planes, enabling a complete reconstruction of the species.

By Nature-Times News Service.

Source: *Nature*, March 4 (260, 36; 1976).

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Fabergé works fetch £304,860

By Geraldine Norman
Sale Room Correspondent

The Robert Strauss collection of Fabergé was sold at Christie's yesterday for £304,860, half as much again as the sale room had estimated. A vase of wild strawberries sold to How of Edinburgh at £39,600 with premium (estimate £10,000 to £20,000).

The amazingly naturalistic fruit are of carved purpurine set with gold seeds, the flowers of chalcedony with gold stamens and the leaves of finely-carved nephrite. The seven sprays are set in a rock-crystal vase engraved with garlands.

A spray of gentian (exacum) made £26,400 (estimate £10,000 to £15,000). The six blooms are enamelled in pale pink and have rose-diamond centres; the leaves are of nephrite and it grows from a Japanese-style jadeite tub.

A spray of Hoya Bella, with 15 yellow blooms, each with a rose diamond pistil, made £13,750 (estimate £8,000 to £15,000) and a trembling spray of Portulaca, its three gold blooms with diamond centres, the same price (estimate £8,000 to £12,000).

A vase of anemones, chubby dark enamelled blooms, went to How at £20,090 (estimate £10,000 to £15,000) and a spray of lilies of the valley brought £18,700 (estimate £7,000 to £12,000).

While flowers proved the most popular, there were also some animals. A green nephrite snail made £16,500 (estimate £4,000 to £8,000); an agate stork went to Kiehnfeldt at £11,000 (estimate £4,000 to £8,000) and an obsidian toucan with yellow agate beak and rose diamond eyes made £9,350 (estimate £4,000 to £8,000).

While most Fabergé objects are in their nature exotic toys for the very rich, the minor functional items underline that almost more than the big set pieces. A white agate stamp damper sold to Wartski for £1,540; the sides are applied with green-gold laurel festoons, red-gold festoons and cabochon rubies. The damping is done by a rock-crystal roller. Every lot in the sale was sold.

Christie's also sold Japanese swords, sword-fittings and prints for a total of £46,803, with 6 per cent unsold. Many of the lots went to Japan. A sale in New York last week indicated that another big jump in print prices was taking place, and that was confirmed yesterday.

Sotheby's Belgravia were holding their main spring sale of Victorian paintings. The market in this field is improving after last year's depression; the sale made £177,910 with only 2 per cent unsold.

The top price was £9,350 (estimate £4,000 to £8,000) for James Jacques Tissot's "Going to the City". It is one of his ever popular London views, with a bearded gentleman reading *The Times* as he rattles past St Paul's in a horse-drawn cab.

Two still-life paintings catalogued as from the hand of Queen Victoria were the prime curiosities of the sale. Christie's had changed their minds and ascribed them to her eldest daughter, Princess Victoria, by the time the auction arrived; nevertheless they fetched £1,430 and £1,870, compared to an estimated £100 to £200 apiece.

Watercolours by the Queen's daughters are quite often on the market and usually make around £5 a time; extensive presale publicity had clearly attracted collectors of royal nostalgia (as opposed to pictures) to the sale.



Superintendent S. V. A. McBride, who has been appointed director of the Women's Royal Naval Service. She entered the service in 1949 as a personnel selection officer and is now on the staff of the Director General, Naval Personal Services. She takes up her new post in July in succession to Commandant M. I. Talbot.

Latest appointments

Latest appointments include:

Mr A. J. Wilton, formerly an Assistant Under-Secretary of State in the Foreign and Commonwealth Office, to be Ambassador to the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia in succession to Mr A. K. Rothnie, who is to take up another appointment in the diplomatic service.

Mr S. P. E. C. W. Towneley to be Lord-Lieutenant for Lancashire in succession to Lord Clitheroe.

Lord Selwyn-Lloyd

The life barony conferred on Mr John Selwyn Brooke Selwyn-Lloyd, QC, has been gazetted by the name, style and title of Baron Selwyn-Lloyd, of Wirral in the county of Merseyside.

Luncheons

HM Government
Mr David Ennals, Minister of State at the Foreign and Commonwealth Office, was host yesterday at a luncheon at Admiralty House in honour of the Secretary-General of the Central Treaty Organization, Mr Umit Haluk Bayulken.

Royal College of Physicians
The President of the Royal College of Physicians, Sir Cyril Clarke, entertained Sir Isaac Wolfson at luncheon yesterday at the college. Others present were: Dr John Badenoch, Dr Nigel Compston, Dr D. A. Pyke, Dr J. S. Malpas and Mr G. M. G. Tibbs.

British Council
Sir John Llewellyn, Director-General of the British Council, was host at a luncheon yesterday at 10 Spring Gardens for members of the British-German working party on academic exchange.

Lunchtime Comment Club
Sir Edwin McAlpine was the guest speaker at a luncheon of the Lunchtime Comment Club at the Connaught Rooms yesterday. The chairman of the club, Mr W. F. Davis, presided.

Dinners

Carmen's Company
The Lord Mayor and the Lady Mayoress, accompanied by the Sheriffs and their ladies, attended the annual livery dinner of the Carmen's Company held at the Mansion House last night. The Master, Mr M. W. Harris, presided and the other speakers were Mr C. W. Lloyd, the Lord Mayor, Lord Lloyd of Kilgerran, QC, the Senior Warden and the Recorder of London.

Paviors' Company
The Paviors' Company held a livery dinner yesterday evening at Clothworkers' Hall after the installation of their new Master, Lord Mais. The speakers were Air Chief Marshal Sir Augustus Walker, the Renter Warden, and the Agent General for Quebec.

Pipeline Industries Guild
Lord Kearton, chairman of the British National Oil Corporation, was the principal speaker at the annual dinner of the Pipeline Industries Guild held yesterday evening at Grosvenor House. Mr R. le G. Hetherington presided, assisted by the chairman of the guild, Mr P. A. Shepherd. Among the guests were Lord Nugent of Guildford, Chairman of the National Water Council, and Sir Arthur Hetherington, Chairman of the British Gas Corporation.

Dr H. P. Jost
Dr H. Peter Jost was host at a dinner at the Athenaeum yesterday evening to celebrate the tenth anniversary of the technology tribology. Lord Bowden was the guest of honour and other guests included: Lord Hinton of Bankside, Lord Avebury, Professor Sir Hugh Ford, Sir Robert Marshall, Professor David Tabor and Mr Richard Bullock.

High Sheriff of Nottinghamshire
A dinner was held in Nottingham last night by invitation of the High Sheriff of Nottinghamshire, Captain J. Stephen Dobson, for the past High Sheriffs of Nottinghamshire, Derbyshire, Lincolnshire and those in nomination. Among those present were: Mr Justice Molford Stevenson, the Hon Mrs Stephen Dobson, Major Sir Charles Buchanan, Lieutenant-Commander Sir Michael Nall, Brigadier Sir John Anstey, Mr Justice Arnold, Lieutenant-Colonel H. Vere-Laurie, Colonel and Mrs T. Forman Hardy, Mr and Mrs Bryan Orr, Mr and Mrs Anthony Scott, Major and Mrs Andrew Buchanan, Mr and Mrs Charles Mackie, Major and Mrs Richard Abel Smith, Captain and Mrs Jeremy Elwes, Colonel and Mrs Peter Hilton, Colonel and Mrs John Stanton, Mr and Mrs John Jackson, Lieutenant-Commander and Mrs Martin Boissier, Lieutenant-Colonel G. A. Warton, and Mr and Mrs Kenneth Dickins.

Selsdon Group
Mr Antony LeJeune was the guest of the Selsdon Group at a dinner last night at the Wilbraham Hotel on the occasion of the bicentenary of the publication of *The Wealth of Nations*.

McGill Society of Great Britain
The McGill Society of Great Britain gave a reception and dinner at the Athenaeum yesterday evening in honour of the Principal of McGill University, Montreal, and Mrs Bell. The president, Mr H. H. Hemming, presided, and Mr B. J. Moughton, honorary secretary of the society, also spoke.

Marriage

Dr C. G. Geary and Miss K. Wood
The marriage took place on Saturday at St Christopher's Church, Pott-Shrigley, Macclesfield, of Dr Colin Geary, only son of Mrs B. M. Geary, of Bowdon, Cheshire, and the late Dr R. V. Geary, and Miss Kathleen Wood, daughter of Mr and Mrs J. L. Wood, of Harthill, Yorkshire. The service was conducted by the Rev Leslie Kelly.

The bride, who was given in marriage by her father, wore a cream suit with coffee-coloured accessories and a corsage of red carnations and was attended by her niece, Miss Sally Wood. Flight Lieutenant David Campbell was best man.

A luncheon was held at the Bridge Hotel, Prestbury, and afterwards a champagne reception at the bridegroom's home in Poynton.

The honeymoon will be spent in Switzerland.

Latest wills

Mrs Jessie Inglis Geddes, of Croydon, left £88,055 net. She left £20,000 and some effects to personal legatees, and the residue equally between Dr Barnardo's and the Institute of Child Health. Other estates include (net, before duty paid, duty not disclosed):

Bridge, Mr George Henry, of West Wittering, Sussex .. £163,094
Cox, Katherine Ethel, of Bristol £111,669
Hammett, Mr Edward Sidney, of Romford, Essex, company director £200,687
Ratcliff, Mrs Helena Ethel, of Kilburn, London .. £140,640

Birthdays today

Sir Robert Bellinger, 66; Air Chief Marshal Sir Brian Burnett, 63; Brigadier W. G. Carr, 75; Sir Fergus Graham, 83; Sir Charles Groves, 61; Sir Charles Hardie, 66; Dr Margaret Hogarth, 91; Vice-Admiral Sir Geoffrey Robson, 74; Sir Lionel Thompson, 83; Dame Eva Turner, 84; Lord Wakefield of Kendal, 78.

25 years ago

From The Times of Saturday, March 10, 1951

There will be deep regret at the withdrawal of Mr Bevin from the Foreign Office, but there will be great relief as well. Even in a dying government the need for a Foreign Secretary well and able to shape and press a foreign policy is vital for the national interest. Mr Bevin has qualities of solid character, personal influence and straightforward principle which cannot be matched among his colleagues. . . . It was his plain sense of right and wrong which saw the perilous make-believe of a friendly Russian ally. It was his lifelong belief in the importance of ordinary people and their standard of life which caused him to seize at once upon the Marshall project for aid to Europe as a chief instrument of international restoration and peace. It is in fact his steady unsparing work in these causes that is the reason for his going now.

Mr Bevin was succeeded by Mr Herbert Morrison, the deputy Prime Minister.

Easy-to-grow chicory at RHS show

By Our Horticultural Correspondent

Amid a splendid array of spring flowers at the Royal Horticultural Society's show at Westminster, for many people the most interesting exhibit is of some pots of new varieties of chicory. (The Witloof chicory, which is imported in vast quantities from Belgium, is easy enough to grow in the garden, but notoriously difficult to force in winter to produce those fat, creamy white "chicons" we buy in the shops.

The new varieties, bred in Holland, are easy to force, as I can personally testify.

In the new hall a gold medal was awarded for a lovely group of trees and shrubs from South Down Nurseries, of Cornwall.

In the old hall, which is filled to capacity with the show of the British Orchid Growers Association staged in association with the Royal Horticultural Society, a gold medal was awarded to a group of orchids, the largest seen for many years, from McBeans Orchids Ltd.

In the South Down exhibit there are some magnificent hybrids of *Magnolia campbellii*, acacias, camellias, *Corylopsis platypetala*, and other plants that make those of us who garden in less favoured parts so envious.

Grey foliaged plants, a collection of ivy varieties, huge colourful polyanthus and cyclamen, and an interesting little group of freesias and bahianas from Mr H. J. Everett of Southampton, attracted much admiration.

Mr Everett has been ramralizing us with his brilliant red freesias for years, but there is still no sign of their being put on the market so that we can all enjoy them at home.

In the middle of the new hall is an exhibit of daffodils with "Ice Follies", so good for forcing, the double yellow "Golden Ducat", and the novelties "Stadium", white with an enormous flat yellow cup, and "Rococco", white with a large frilly yellow cup, in fine condition.

Rock garden plants are well shown, including many crocuses; wild cyclamen, scillas, the white *Ranunculus calandrinioides*, and *Anemone blanda atropurpurea*.

In the groups of trees and shrubs there are many camellias, rhododendrons, forsythias, varieties of chaenomeles, Japanese azaleas, and other spring flowering shrubs.

Dwarf conifers and house plants are also there, and a large group of hippeastrums from the Borough of Hammersmith.

Fewer plants than usual were submitted to the committees, but the following awards were made: First class certificate to Arum creticum, white with a yellow spadix, from the Director, Royal Botanic Gardens, Kew. Awards of merit to Alnus cordata, with green and yellow catkins, also from the Director, Kew; Acacia myrtifolia, yellow, from Sir Giles Loder, Leonardslee; Salix melanostachys, with black catkins, from Dr A. Smart, Barnstaple; and Arumone biflora, scarlet, from Mrs M. E. Dawson, Carnalton.

Odontioglossum Many Waters 'Stonehurst' yellow, from Mr R. Strauss, Ardingly; Paphiopedilum Peter Black 'Maybrook's Omega', pale amber with a white edge to the dorsal sepal, from Mr and Mrs G. A. Wright, Seattle, USA; Odontioda Philomel 'Michie Downing' rosy purple and white, from Mr S. Downing, Birkenhead; Lycaste Auburn 'Ditchling', lemon yellow and rosy purple, from Mrs C. Cotton, Solihull; Vuylstekeara Maruena 'Lyoth Joy', firm rosy purple, and Odontioda 'Cooksbridge' yellow, reddish orange and a lilac lip, both from Charlesworth and Co.

The camellia competition attracted many entries, and the principal prize-winners were:

Three semi-double varieties of Camellia japonica, Dr J. A. Smart; three anemone or paeony flowered varieties of C. japonica, Dr Smart; three varieties of C. japonica, one spray of each, Sir Giles Loder; any three camellias, restricted entry—H. G. Ayling, Stanmore; any three camellia hybrids, one bloom of each, and any three hybrids, one spray of each, Sir Giles Loder.

In the rhododendron competition there are many fine entries; the fine weather has favoured the exhibitors.

Major E. W. M. Magor and Mrs J. D. Peter-Hoblyn, Bodmin, led for four species, three varieties of *R arboreum*, and four hybrids.

The early spring show of the Alpine Garden Society is more colourful than in some years, and competition more than usually keen. Leading prizewinners:

Open section, pan size not to exceed 12ins diameter, six pans rock plants, AGS medal, J. Archibald, Sherborne; three pans, B. Reid, Gravesend; three pans of Primula allionii forms, B. Reid; three pans bulbous plants, Mrs K. Dryden, Sawbridgeworth; three pans cyclamen, Mrs Dryden.

Pan size not to exceed 6ins diameter, six pans, Mrs J. Bishop, Lightwater; three pans, Mrs Dryden; three pans bulbous plants, J. S. Elliott, Ashford, Kent; three pans cyclamen, Mrs Joy Hulme, Woking.

Amateurs classes, pan size 6ins, three pans, G. A. Holmes, Woking, three pans 6ins, Mrs Hulme.

The Farrer medal, Brian Britten, Chelworth, for a pan of Petrocallis pudica.

The show of the British Orchid Growers Association is remarkably fine, one of the best for years. In addition to the trade groups the amateurs classes are well supported. Leading prizewinners:

Twelve cymbidiums, McBean Cymbidium trophy, Mrs G. Cotton, Solihull. Mrs Cotton also won the McBean orchid trophy for six cymbidiums, the Lyoth trophy for odontioglossums, the Wild Court trophy for a group of orchids, the H. Dixon & Sons trophy for four orchids, and the Armstrong & Brown trophy for miniature cymbidiums.

A group of orchids, The Sidney Tharp trophy, G. L. Paviet, Frant; a group of paphiopedilums, R. & E. Ratcliffe trophy, E. Young, Jersey; four orchid species, Burnham Nurseries trophy, Mrs J. Kelleher, Orpington.

The show is open again today from 10 am to 5 pm.

University news

Oxford
The following prizes have been awarded:

Canon Hall Junior Greek Testament Prize, C. M. Culbertson, Christ Church; Hall-Houghton Junior Septuagint Prize, P. Cowe, Mansfield; Proxime accessit, Mary E. P. Wilkins, Lady Margaret Hall.

The Boughton Syriac Prize was not awarded.

Glasgow
Dr D. Campbell, consultant in anaesthetics to the Royal Infirmary, Glasgow, and honorary clinical lecturer in anaesthetics at the university has been appointed to the chair of anaesthesia.

Leeds
Dr R. W. Revans has been appointed external professor in the department of management studies for two years.

East Anglia
Honorary degrees are to be conferred on the following at a congregation on July 9:

DCL: The Right Rev Launcelot Fleming, Dean of Windsor and Domestic Chaplain to the Queen.

D Litt: Dr A. Myrdal, diplomat, sociologist and author, Swedish Ambassador at Large since 1961; Professor G. Steiner, Extraordinary Fellow, Churchill C, Cambridge.

DSc: Sir Edward Bullard, FRS, professor of geophysics 1964-74, and fellow of Churchill C, Cambridge.

Today's engagements

The Queen, accompanied by the Duke of Edinburgh, opens headquarters of British Academy of Film and Television Arts, 195 Piccadilly, 6.

Princess Margaret, as president of the Friends of the Elderly and Gentlefolk's Help, visits the Collin and Torr Homes, Wimbledon, 3.

The Duchess of Gloucester, as patron of the Association for Spina Bifida and Hydrocephalus, carries out engagements in Sheffield, 11.45.

The Duke of Kent leaves London airport to visit the 2nd Battalion, The Scots Guards and the 2nd Battalion, The Royal Regiment of Fusiliers stationed in BAOR.

OBITUARY

MR MILTON WALDMAN
Author and publisher

Mr Milton Waldman, FRSL, the author and publisher, died on March 6, at the age of 80.

Richard Ollard writes

The death of Milton Waldman is a breech in the outward and visible continuity of English letters. He had known such diverse figures as Hardy and James Joyce, Eliot and H. L. Mencken; he had been on the staff of the *London Mercury* in the heyday of Sir John Squire; he had been literary adviser, first to Longmans (1929-34) and then for a much longer period to Collins before joining Sir Rupert Hart-Davis as his partner in 1952. In 1955 he decided to make his home in Italy and rejoined Collins as an adviser until his retirement in 1969. No publisher's editor of his time had a more brilliant record for discovering new talent, for recognizing the potentialities of an as yet unsuccessful writer or for seeing what needed doing to turn the ineffective or the apparently commonplace into an outstanding success.

A career in publishing that would have left most men with a justified sense of satisfaction was only part of his distinguished achievement. In the 1930s he had enjoyed considerable success as a playwright. He published his first historical biography, *Sir Walter Raleigh*, in 1928, his last, *The Lady Mary*, in 1972. His masterpiece, *Elizabeth and Leicester* (1944), won the enthusiastic admiration of the leading Tudor historians of the day, Sir John Neale and Dr A. L. Rowse. It went out of print after selling 20,000 in a few months, a casualty of paper rationing. As a writer he was spare, elegant and readable: as a scholar scrupulous without pedantry. These qualities, informed by wide reading in European as well as English and American literature, were brought to the consideration of any manuscript, from a thriller to a work of learning or of high imagination, that might come his way as an editor.

The versatility of his talents matched the variety of his experience. Born in 1895 into an American Jewish family who had renounced their religion he was to spend all his adult life in Europe, the latter and greater part of it as a devout Catholic. His marriage in 1934 gave him 35 years of an intense happiness that enriched the lives of his many friends but it had been preceded by a tragedy so bitter that his balance and his warmth, his humour and his gentleness were all the more remarkable. He was a great enjoyer and a great sharer of enjoyment. Pictures, music, books, wine, places, above all, friendship, were his chief and sociable pleasures. The canticle traditionally associated with Lent "All ye works of the Lord, Bless ye the Lord" rises naturally to the mind in thinking of the multiplicity of his taste and intelligence and the liveliness of his response.

LORD CAMOYS

Lord Camoys died yesterday at the age of 62. The head of a leading Roman Catholic family, his affairs were much in the news earlier this year after it had become known that he and Lady Camoys had decided to sell Stonor Park, Oxfordshire, a family home whose history stretches back to before the Norman Conquest, and also the contents of the house in an attempt to resolve their immediate financial difficulties.

The decision to sell was opposed by Lord Camoys's son and heir, the Hon Thomas Stonor, who was said to be anxious to buy the house.

Part medieval, part Tudor, part 18th century, the house was restored in recent years at great cost, borne jointly by various members of the Stonor family, the Exchequer and the Historic Buildings Council.

Stonor Park is of particular interest to Roman Catholics since the house played a significant role in recusant history. Edmund Campion and other English martyrs were hidden there in the 16th century. The paintings, books and manuscripts kept in the house are interlinked with the fortunes of the Roman Catholic church in England. The contents of Stonor Park were disposed of in a two-day sale in January, when a total of over £150,000 was realized.

Lord Camoys, the son of the fifth Baron Camoys whom he succeeded in 1968, was born on July 5, 1913. He saw service in the Second World War in the Oxfordshire and Buckinghamshire Light Infantry, retiring because of ill-health, with the rank of Major in 1944. He took his share of public duties in Oxfordshire, had sat on the County Council and was a former chairman of the county records committee. Like others who describe themselves as "educated privately, mostly self-taught" he had an inquiring mind; his interests ranged widely and his recreations embraced the study of art, architecture, botany, ornithology and lepidoptera. At the January sale his personal collection of stuffed birds, butterflies and other items of natural history made £12,842.

He married in 1938 another member of an old Roman Catholic family, Mary Jeanne Stourton, daughter of Captain Herbert Marmaduke Joseph Stourton. They had two sons and three daughters. The heir, as already mentioned is the Hon Thomas Stonor.

ARCHBISHOP T. D. ROBERTS

B. K. writes:

May an old friend and great admirer add a few lines to your obituary of Archbishop "Tommy" Roberts? He was indeed the inspiration of a generation both because of his honest expression of ideas unpopular in official circles and because of his dignified behaviour under suspicion and even persecution.

The obituary reference to his attitude to pacifism does not give the whole picture. In his view pacifists and "just war" theorists must, in the total war context, come to the same non-violent conclusions. He was a strong supporter of Pope John's judgment in *Pacem in Terris* "... it no longer makes sense to maintain that war is a fit instrument with which to repair the violation of justice. . . ."

Moreover, his submission, which was not allowed at the Second Vatican Council, was profoundly concerned not only with the ethics of war but also with the rights of the conscientious objector to refuse to kill, a right ignored in many countries in the west as in the east. One of the Archbishop's greatest heroes was Franz Jägerstätter, the Austrian peasant executed in 1943 in Germany for refusing to take the unconditional military oath.

"You were a beacon to my life . . ." began Eddie Linden's poem for Archbishop Roberts on his 80th birthday. So he was for multitudes.

Lady Lawrence, widow of Sir Henry Staveley Lawrence, KCSI, died on February 16. She was Jane Rosamond, daughter of Colonel Edward Napier. Her husband, whom she married in 1914 as his second wife, died in 1949.

SGR ALFONSO GATTO
Distinguished Italian poet

Signor Alfonso Gatto, the Italian poet, has died after a road accident near Orbecello. He was 66. Born in Salerno, in 1909, Gatto was an active opponent of fascism and fought with the resistance movement towards the end of the Second World War. He also wrote for the Communist newspaper *Unità* until 1951 when he quit the party in protest against the muzzling of intellectuals in the postwar climate of lack of freedom of debate in the communist ranks.

His first volume of poetry, *Isola*, appeared in 1932 and consisted mainly of evocations of Southern landscapes and moods. Later, under the influence of Quasimodo he tended towards surrealism. The advent of fascism and, again, the lead of Quasimodo also spurred him to greater social awareness as a poet. Much of his later work was darker in its themes, often centring on death.

Besides being a poet and essayist, Gatto was also Italy's foremost authority on Russian literature. He translated many Russian works into Italian and wrote the definitive history of Russian literature in the Italian language.

SIR JOHN SHELLEY

Sir John Shelley, Bt, who died on March 8 at the age of 91, was chairman of Devon County Council 1946-55. The elder son of the ninth baronet, he was educated at Winchester and Trinity College, Cambridge, and saw service in the First World War.

He was twice married and is succeeded by his elder son Mr John Shelley.

MR JOSEPH BRENNAN

Mr Joseph Brennan, who died in Dublin on March 3 in his eighty-ninth year, was secretary of the Department of Finance, Government of Ireland, 1923-27, and chairman of the Irish Currency Commission 1927-43. From 1943 to 1953 he was Governor of the Central Bank of Ireland.

Dr Grigory Podyapolsky, Russian geophysicist and of the Soviet Union's prominent dissidents, died on March 8 after a brain haemorrhage. He was 48. Dr Podyapolsky was believed to have taken a leading part in editing the underground dissident chronicle of current events and was a founding member, in 1969, of the action group for the defence of civil rights. He wrote several pamphlets, distributed in typescript, defending arrested dissidents.

Mrs Edith Altschul Lehman, widow of Herbert H. Lehman, sometime Governor of New York, died on March 8 at the age of 86. She was actively involved in the work of social service organizations. Her husband died in 1963.

Baroness Philippe de Rothschild, wife of Baron Philippe de Rothschild, died on March 8 at Santa Barbara. She was formerly Mrs Pauline Fairfax Potter and she married Baron Philippe de Rothschild as his second wife in 1954.

Jim Lewis, the well-known amateur footballer, who has died, spent 34 years with Walthamstow Avenue FC as player, secretary and manager before retiring in 1962. He won 7 caps, including two full ones when he toured South Africa with an England squad that included three amateurs in 1956. His son, Jim, also an amateur, turned out for Chelsea in the 1950s.

Why Poppy Day?



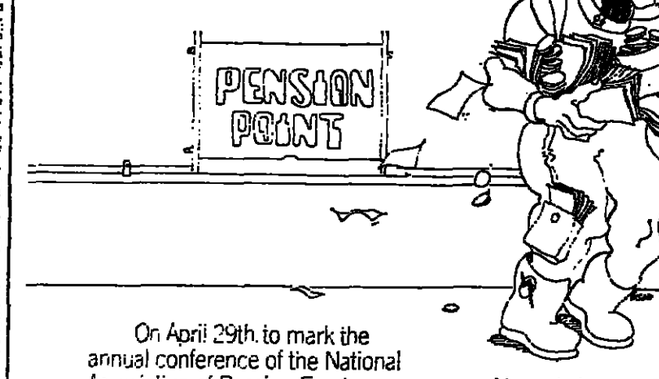
In remembering the *dead* by wearing a Poppy it's sometimes easy to forget that the money you give for it is to support the *living* – the dependants and disabled not only of two World Wars but also of the many "little wars" between and since. The annual Poppy Appeal cannot possibly cover the cost of all the Legion's activities to make life liveable for the thousands of survivors who need and deserve our help – Permanent homes. Rest homes. Rehabilitation Centres. Workshops. Jobs. Monthly Allowances to the permanently disabled and to widows – and advice and assistance of every kind.

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THE TIMES

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THE TIMES
BUSINESS NEWS

The case for reforming company taxation, page 19

ervention by nk stems vnward slide he pound

Vestlake
ee days of severe on the world's markets, sterling much calmer erday. The pound's t the dollar was 10 points when rading finished. But f $1.9415 was the ing level yet seen.
the pound's evaluation against rrencies, from the base-date, worsened to a record 33.2 per ared with 33.1 per nday night.
k of England was ht to have provided al support for the on a much smaller the $100m to $150m n the previous day.
k seems to have provide just sufficrt to convince the hange market that all in the pound's rate would be
The signal was and conditions ppreciably.
ing also helped ore two-way market, sported. However, still very nervous.
the pound has e than 8¼ United s in three working lealers were suggest- further decline was
alers, however, noted of the difference he inflation rate in ad the international s been discounted for nonths by sterling's
eak European curren- also steadier yester- French franc was thought to have been supported lightly by the French central bank, but its rate against the Deutsche mark narrowed after reaching on Monday the mandatory maximum under the rules of the European floating block of eight currencies.
However, many bankers were expressing the view that the French franc might again come under pressure fairly soon.
In Paris the general view is that the franc is not in a position to withstand pressure much longer, and that any further depreciation of the pound or lira will force the French Government to abandon its intervention policy and look for some more durable solution.
French sources, which put the blame squarely on the British Treasury for the new fall of the pound, say that the latest series of crises had underscored the vulnerability of the current parities within the European snake.
Observers point out that whatever the reasons behind the latest monetary turmoil, the French Government will soon have to make a major reappraisal of its monetary policy.
In the absence of agreement *to realign snake currencies*, the Government's alternatives are: to devalue unilaterally or to make another exit from the snake which it rejoined last July after an absence of 18 months.
Peter Norman writes from Basle: Western central bankers yesterday ended their regular monthly meeting here without taking any big monetary decisions. When the meeting broke up around lunchtime, participants were relieved that a measure of calm had returned to foreign exchange markets after sterling's sharp decline on Friday and Monday.

ria switches reserves

m Adanu Ciroma, tral bank governor, ntry's foreign exves, formerly held terling, have been l into various conencies, Lagos radio
t quoted the bank saying the switch ct the reserves from fluctuations in world currency values.
Besides its sterling reserves, Nigeria holds Deutsche marks, Swiss francs, United States and Canadian dollars, and Japanese yen.
Mr Ciroma is reported to have explained that redistribution was necessary in view of the increased volume of Nigeria's trade requiring payment to be made in various currencies.

eed seeks ver plan

March 9
heed Aircraft Corpnow trying to get banks to agree to tension of the final upleting the second e company's highly and vitally imporcial restructuring
was announced last the company had omplete it months essive delays have largely by difficule Securities and Exmission. The final ended some months 15.
needs approval by shareholders and has already been lay its shareholders' ee times.
owever, Lockheed hoped its difficule SEC, which deals ith the negotiating decree after investinto Lockheed's uestionable foreign ould "be resolved future".

Minister studies Lonrho report

By Our Financial Staff
Mr Shore, Secretary of State for Trade, has received the report of his inspectors into the affairs of Lonrho and is considering it.
The minister announced this yesterday in answer to a parliamentary question from Mr Iver Clemitson, Labour MP for Luton East who asked when the report on the London-based overseas trading group would be ready.
Mr Shore, who said he received it on March 1, gave no indication as to whether the findings will be made public. However, around the time that *the inquiry was set up—in May, 1973*—the then Minister for Trade and Consumer Affairs, Sir Geoffrey Howe said the results of such investigations were "normally published".
The inspectors were appointed under section 165(b) of the Companies Act 1948 to investigate the affairs of Lonrho after Mr Heath, then Prime Minister, made his remark about happenings there representing the "unacceptable face of capitalism".

Life office challenges aim of Equity Bank

By Anthony Rowley
Opposition among financial institutions towards the proposed Equity Bank began to emerge openly yesterday, when Mr Tom Risk, chairman of Standard Life Assurance claimed that the need for the bank had been inadequately researched.
"We think that the scope for investigation into the need for this additional source of capital could be widened", said Mr Risk, who is also a director of the Bank of England.
Mr David Donald, general manager of Standard Life said: "We had hoped that manufacturing industry would be asked to say how it would use the funds, and that trade unions would be asked how they viewed the prospect of reduced employment flowing from increased investment".
It is clear now that the original proposals produced by the Equity Bank working party have been referred back for a major review, although no comment was available from the working party last night on whether this review will embrace points such as those raised by Standard Life.
Yesterday's comments by Mr Risk and Mr Donald represent the first open criticism from a financial institution of the scheme first mooted last *autumn for providing* United Kingdom manufacturing industry with equity capital when it is unavailable from traditional sources, although it was clear early on that some Scottish investment institutions were unhappy about the idea. The criticisms are important as Standard Life, one of the leading United Kingdom mutual life assurance companies, has been asked to subscribe towards the capital of the Equity Bank.
It is understood that the British life offices as a body have been asked to contribute £17m towards the initial £50m paid-up capital of Equity Investments Limited, and that Standard Life has been asked to provide £1m of this sum.
The Edinburgh-based group has, however, declined its support for the Equity Bank as originally envisaged, and is reserving its judgment until it sees the final proposals from the working party. Other Scottish mutual life offices—those owned by policyholders rather than shareholders—are believed to have taken a similar line.
A further snag which came to light yesterday centres on the fact that, under the recently introduced Department of Trade regulations on the valuation of insurance companies assets, unquoted investments such as those in the Equity Bank would have nil value for solvency purposes.
This could add to companies' problems at times when, as in 1974, the solvency margin is narrowed by a general fall in the market value of assets, and for this reason the insurance companies are reluctant to take ineligible assets onto their books. Representations to Mr Shore, the Secretary of State for Trade on this score produced no concessions, however.
Mr Risk makes an oblique reference to the Equity Bank in his annual report for 1975, published today. The problems of *inadequate industrial investment* "will not be solved by tinkering with symptoms or setting up any elaborate organization which will not in itself tap any new source of funds for equity investment", he says.
"There has been much, and largely ill-informed, criticism in recent months that the investing institutions have not adequately provided finance for industry", he continues. "I am not persuaded that this claim has any foundation in fact. It is true that industry has invested less than might be thought healthy, but this is a direct consequence of a series of factors beyond the control of industry or indeed of the investing institutions."

Business Diary, page 19
Financial news, page 20

Tea nations open discussions on stabilization pact

By Patricia Tisdall
Plans to ensure the future stabilization of tea prices and supply were discussed at a meeting between Commonwealth producing countries and the consuming nations in London yesterday.
The talks, which continue today and are the first of their kind, follow general commodity stabilization proposals made by *Mr Wilson, the Prime Minister*, at the Commonwealth Conference in Jamaica last spring.
Taking part are representatives from governments of nine Commonwealth tea producers including India, Sri Lanka and Kenya, the three largest. Speaking for the consuming nations were representatives from Australia, Canada, New Zealand and Britain.
If the talks, which were set up when a research mission sent by the Ministry of Agriculture last year *found unanimous* agreement on the need for action, prove productive, they could become a yardstick for other commodity agreements.

Property group shares suspended

By John Brennan
Shares of Amalgamated Investment & Property, the £210m property development group, have been suspended "pending clarification of the company's financial position".
In an unexpected announcement made just after midday yesterday, AIP called for a "temporary" halt to trading in its ordinary shares, loan stocks and warrants. Shares throughout the property sector weakened as the stock market awaited a promised statement on the reasons for the suspension.
But after a directors' meeting, the company merely issued a statement confirming that the suspension had been called for pending discussions on funding arrangements for the group which has £124m of borrowings. A further announcement is expected today.
AIP, which under the management of the late Mr Gabriel Harrison in the 1960s and early 1970s, was rated among the property sector's "glamour" stocks, has recently been struggling with an increasing revenue deficit.
In 1975 the group reported a pre-tax loss of £1.2m, but this figure fails to take account of development outgoings charged directly to capital costs, which bring the overall loss to more than £10m.
Despite property sales which have brought in around £35m since last March, AIP has had to lean heavily upon the support of its bankers.
In its last accounts, when directors were unable to give a firm opinion as to the true value of the group's £209m property portfolio, the company's auditors noted that the figures had been prepared "on a going concern basis on the assumption of continued support from the group's bankers and other financial institutions".
Mr Peter Olsberg, AIP's chairman, was unavailable for comment on the situation last night, but Lazards, the group's merchant banker, confirmed that yesterday's suspension and *directors' meeting were* decided upon to give time to deal with arrangements to guarantee on-going finance for the group.
Apart from funds to complete its remaining developments, AIP still has to carry the costs of a number of recently completed but as yet unlet schemes, including the 166,000 sq ft Amalgamated House in Trinity Square, London. It is understood that existing arrangements for bank finance, notably from Barclays Bank, expire at the end of this month.
AIP's current problems may have been exacerbated by the recent fall in the value of sterling because its £20m "Paciferic Bureaux" development project in Paris, which has run far over its original expected costs, has been financed locally through a consortium of French banks.
News of the suspension, which came through to the stock market at 1.30 pm yesterday, brought crowds of brokers milling around the property dealers' pitches.
Fears of a harder line by the clearing banks, now supporting cash-starved property development companies, sent shares in the sector tumbling, but much of the earlier losses were made up before the market closed as dealers came around to the view that the suspension might only be temporary.
Dealings in AIP's shares were suspended at 16½p, 1p down on their overnight price, despite a surprising amount of activity in the option market earlier in the day, when a substantial amount of speculative money went into "call" options.
Town & City ended the day 1p lower at 16½p, British Land shed 1p to 34p and Capital & Counties ended 1p lower at 15½p. Shares of the sector continued to slide in after-hours dealings, particularly when AIP's promised statement failed to materialize.

Depressed demand for bank loans persists

There are still no indications that industry is turning to the banks to finance any higher levels of business activity. Figures from the clearing banks for the month to February 18 show a continuing downturn in the demand for loans.
The fall in advances to the private sector by the London *clearers was £99m during the* month. Because the changed pattern of tax payments means that, for once, few adjustments have to be made on seasonal grounds, this decline is a fair indication of the still diminishing need for funds.
The breakdown of borrowing by sectors shows that manufacturing industry as a whole had cut its borrowings from the London banks to £37m over the level of the previous three months, although, counting mining and construction, there was a tiny rise.
Personal borrowing showed an increase of £83m, but lending to the service industries was lower.
One factor to emerge from the most recent figures is that there appears to have been evidence of some public sector borrowers shifting their borrowing from the banks to the money markets to take advantage of rates which had fallen below those available from the banks. This is thought to be one factor behind the £72m drop in public sector borrowing.
Despite indications from one clearing bank, Barclays, that the inability to offer deposit rates competitive with those of the building societies was leading to a drain of deposits out of the bank, there is no evidence of any underlying reduction in sterling deposits by United Kingdom residents.

BANK FIGURES

The following are the figures for eligible liabilities and reserve asset ratios of United Kingdom banks released by the Bank of England today:

At mid-month	Eligible liabilities £m	Rise over 3 months at annual rate %	Reserve assets ratio %
1975			
Jan	31,603	4.1	13.8
Feb	31,857	5.1	13.5
March	32,054	6.8	13.8
April	32,322	9.4	13.7
May	32,607	9.7	13.7
June	32,376	4.1	14.6
July	33,209	11.4	15.0
Aug	33,049	5.6	15.1
Sept	32,980	7.6	15.9
Oct	33,367	1.9	15.7
Nov	33,450	4.9	15.2
Dec	33,349	4.6	15.1
1976			
Jan	33,072	0.2*	15.5
Feb	33,207	0.8*	15.4

* adjusted to allow for exclusion of FNFC.

These deposits were down by £232m, but this is less than would normally be expected on seasonal ground. The relatively buoyant levels of deposits could well be a pointer to a more significant increase in the money supply—at least in M1 terms—than has been seen in some recent months when sales of gilts to the public have been running at high levels. Throughout February sales of gilts were much reduced from their January peaks.
Indeed, the banks own holdings of gilts were down by £89m on the month, primarily reflecting early redemption of maturing stocks and reversing an increase of £102m in the previous month.

Dow Jones tops 1,000 mark but slips back

From Frank Vogl
Washington, March 9
The Dow Jones industrial average breached the 1,000 barrier today, leaping by more than 12 points in the first 72 minutes of trading to reach 1,000.16 by 10.42 am. The last time it exceeded this level was on January 26, 1973, when it *closed at 1,000.34*.
However, the upward surge was not maintained today and before the close the index had slipped back to 993.70—up 4.96 on the day. A great deal of the record trading in securities so far this year has been on behalf of institutions.
Today many brokers suggested that, now the psychological 1000 barrier has been passed, the small investor would be encouraged to return to the market, giving the *upward movement* a further momentum.
This week's upsurge is being largely attributed to growing recognition of the fact that interest rates are not going to rise as sharply as had widely been feared.
The Federal Reserve Board has indicated in its money market dealings that it is aiming to stabilize rate levels rather than allowing them to rise significantly.
Now the Fed is thought likely to maintain its moderate expansion of the money supply, which may lead short-term rates to inch upward as credit demand increases. But, as many experts point out, such a trend is only to be expected at this point in an economic recovery. Wall Street's sizable gains are also attributed to the mass of encouraging general economic statistics published by the government during the last few days. These show that the rate inflation has been *easing, with unemployment* declining steadily as demand on retailers, wholesalers and manufacturers expands.

Maritime Fruit talks adjourned

Further talks aimed at resolving the cash crisis which has hit Maritime Fruit Carriers, the Israeli-American shipping group which has major commitments with United Kingdom shipyards, were adjourned last night.
The meeting at the company's London headquarters was attended by representatives of a large number of British, American and European banks and Mr H. Struve Hensel, chief executive of MFC which is in default on some £12m of bank payments, and a further £7.5m of supply and service debt.

Fisons raising nearly £20m by rights issue

By Our Financial Staff
Fisons, the fertilizer, pharmaceutical and agrochemicals group, is making a rights issue to raise £19.9m. New shares are being offered on a one-for-four basis at 325p a share.
The aim is to broaden the group's capital base and enable it to *continue its international* development. The board stated yesterday it believed the group should continue to invest in the development of products based on its own successful research.
The rights issue announcement came in conjunction with 1975 figures showing a rise in pre-tax profits from £14.6m to £16.7m. Earnings per share rose from 30.3p to 36.4p and the dividend goes up from 14.7p (gross) to 16.1p.
For the current year Fisons is forecasting a gross dividend rate equivalent to 17.7p on the enlarged capital. The shares closed 13p lower last night at 395p.

Financial Editor, page 19

Iran oil companies call for summit with Shah

By Roger Vielvoye
The Shah of Iran has been asked to arrange a summit meeting with the heads of the international oil company members of a consortium which buys the bulk of the country's oil output.
A top-level meeting was suggested by the companies, which are concerned at the strained relations with the Iranian government after the decline in oil purchases by the consortium.
The proposal was made as the companies were due to begin further negotiations on revisions to the oil purchase agreement signed in 1973.
Iranian oil production fell by over 11 per cent last year, and after considerable acrimony the Iranians last month cut the price of their heavy crude oil in a so far unsuccessful attempt to stimulate sales.
The 1973 agreement covers more than sales. The companies are obliged to put up 40 per cent of new development costs against future purchases of oil as one of the conditions for remaining preferred customers for Iranian crude.
At the request of the companies these advance payments were waived in January and February but are due to resume in the middle of this month.
The oil company suggestion of a summit with the Shah indicates that more than a simple revision of the agreement is in prospect.
BP is the largest shareholder in the consortium, and it seems certain that Mr David Steel, the new chairman, would be present at any summit along with a number of other heads of the European and American members of the consortium.
Gulf royalties for Angola: Gulf Oil announced in Pittsburgh that it had released $102m (about £50m) in royalties and tax payments to Angola, and would discuss resumption of oil drilling in the enclave of Cabinda under new arrangements.

Montedison chain store chief facing bribe charge

From John Earle
Rome, March 9
Italy's business scandals have spilled over into the private sector with the arrest on a corruption charge of Signor Gino Sferza, chairman of Standa, the big chain stores subsidiary of the Montedison group.
The arrest warrant was issued by a magistrate investigating allegations that sums of money were paid to obtain permits to open supermarkets in the Rome area.
The Montedison parent, in a statement, pointed out that Signor Sferza reported voluntarily to the carabinieri at Spoleto after hearing of the warrant. It has since asked him to withdraw his resignation.
This contrasted with the conduct of Signor Camillo Crociani, former chairman of *Finmeccanica, the engineering* holding company of the state-owned IRI group, who fled abroad last month when sought on a corruption charge in connexion with the Lockheed bribes scandal.
In another case affecting a parastatal corporation and an American multinational, the Rome public prosecutor has announced that he is investigating the possibility of charging Signor Franco Grassini, director-general of the state rescue agency GEPI.
He is also investigating Signor Francesco Fabbri, Christian Democrat under-secretary (deputy minister) at the Treasury, and Signor Pasquale Chiomenti, a leading Rome lawyer.
The case concerns the exact sum, running into several million dollars, which the United States garment manufacturer Genesco paid for its loss-making San Remo subsidiary, near Treviso, to be taken over by GEPI in 1974.
Signor Fabbri has announced he will resign from the government to answer the charges.

UK shipyards output at highest for 15 years

By Peter Hill
Industrial Correspondent
Britain's hard-pressed shipbuilding industry last year launched more merchant shipping than in any year since 1960. But the performance of the yards last year, while apparently marking an encouraging improvement in productivity levels, was in fact considerably lower than the industry's peak output of 1.47 million tons in 1955.
Last year United Kingdom yards launched a total of *1,304,097 tons gross (and this* would indicate a high level of completion this year when the industry is taken into state ownership) compared with 1.33 million tons in 1960.
Since the late 1950s the British industry's performance has been in almost constant decline, yet other yards have consistently lifted their output levels.
Over the past 10 years, while world output has tripled, United Kingdom output has remained virtually static at around the 1.1 million tons mark.
Last year tonnage completed by British yards at 1.17 million tons was the second lowest since 1969, yet tonnage completed by most of the industry's international competitors rose to new record levels.
Lay-off threat: Govan Shipbuilders, the Government controlled yard, facing the possibility of lay-offs in its labour force because of lack of orders, is now negotiating with a foreign company for an order for a cargo ship.
But a spokesman for the company said yesterday that these negotiations were at such a delicate stage that no information could be given.

RITISH AMERICAN AND ENERAL TRUST LIMITED

from the Statement by the Chairman, Mr. W. H. in the Report and Accounts for the year ended ember, 1975.

l dividend for the year 1.25p net (7.69% gross) pared with the equivalent of 1.20p (7.16%) paid 4.

eased investment in leading U.K. equities with an ve average yield should have even greater impact ncome of the current year.

assets attributable to Ordinary Stockholders eased by 93%.

1st December 1975 the proportion of invested funds he U.K. was 65.4% (mainly in equities), in North erica 27.2% and in other overseas areas 7.4%.

	1975	1974
AVAILABLE FOR		
RY STOCK (Net)	£604,877	£614,955
FOR *ORDINARY STOCK	1.29p	1.37p
ed during 1975 by the of loan stock)		
FUNDS		
cluding net current assets	£21,373,000	£12,844,000
ble to Ordinary Stock	£18,873,000	£9,557,000
et value per Unit of 25p	40½p	21p

Managers—Kleinwort, Benson Limited
General Meeting—20 Fenchurch Street, London, EC3.
Thursday, 1st April, 1976 at 12.45 p.m.

How the markets moved

The Times index: 167.49 +1.00
The FT index: 411.4 −0.1

Rises

Ass Dairies	6p to 218p
Brit Borneo	10p to 110p
Brit Leyland	3p to 33p
Heath, C. E.	11p to 285p
Jardine M'son	13p to 398p
Leslie & Godwin	11p to 125p
Needlers	2p to 23p
Rotork	6p to 154p
Sime Darby	7p to 116p
Transport Dev	5p to 60p
Union Corp	8p to 295p
Waterford Glass	2p to 26p
Wheway Watson	1p to 11½p
Witter, T.	3p to 38½p

Falls

Bracken Mines	5p to 170p
Brit Anzani	1p to 14p
Fisons	13p to 395p
Gillett Bros	15p to 200p
Groetvlei	5p to 80p
Harmony	15p to 345p
Joseph, L.	10p to 180p
Lloyds Bank	5p to 220p
Midland	5p to 268p
Photopia	4p to 29p
Steep Rock	7p to 145p
UU Textiles	4p to 4p
Vlakfontein	5p to 62p
W Rand Cons	6p to 94p

Equities made a poor showing.
Gilt-edged securities had a better day.
Sterling was down 10 points at $1.9415. The "effective devaluation" rate was 33.2 per cent.
Gold rose 25 cents an ounce to $133.25.
SDR-$ was 1.16076 on Tuesday, while SDR-£ was 0.595934.
Commodities: Tin and copper prices rose again yesterday. Reuter's index was at 1272.3 (previous 1265.1).

Reports, pages 20 and 22

THE POUND

	Bank buys	Bank sells
Australia $	1.62	1.56
Austria Sch	37.00	35.00
Belgium Fr	80.50	77.50
Canada $	1.96	1.91
Denmark Kr	12.35	11.95
Finland Mkk	7.70	7.45
France Fr	9.05	8.70
Germany Dm	5.15	4.95
Greece Dr	71.00	67.00
Hongkong $	10.00	9.60
Italy Lr	1615.00	1550.00
Japan Yn	610.00	585.00
Netherlands Gld	5.35	5.15
Norway Kr	11.00	10.65
Portugal Esc	57.00	51.00
S Africa Rd	2.25	2.05
Spain Pes	132.50	126.50
Sweden Kr	*8.80*	*8.50*
Switzerland Fr	5.15	4.95
US $	1.99	1.94
Yugoslavia Dnr	38.50	35.50

Rates for small denominations bank notes only as supplied yesterday by Barclays Bank International Ltd. Different rates apply to travellers' cheques and other foreign currency business.

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Derek Crouch (Contractors)
LIMITED
Opencast mining, building and civil engineering contractors, distributors of compressed air and materials handling equipment

Group Results for the year to December 31, 1975

	1975 £'000	1974 £'000
Turnover	21,502	17,860
Earnings before Taxation	1,134	933
Corporation tax	534	461
Net Profit after Taxation	600	472
Dividends for the year (1975) after allowing for Mr. D C H Crouch's waiver of £37,000	274	247
Profits for the year retained	£326	£225
Earnings per share on issued share capital at 31st December, 1975	6.19p	4.9p

Dividend
The directors propose to recommend to shareholders that at the Annual General Meeting to be held on 31st March, 1976 a final dividend of 2.268p per Ordinary share be paid on 2nd April, 1976 to shareholders on the register on 5th March, 1976; which together with the interim dividend paid in January last makes a total distribution of 3.2062p per share compared with 3.005p per share last year. This represents the maximum dividend payable under present regulations.

The Chairman Mr. D C H Crouch, reported in his statement that:-
'Despite the general recession which has been experienced by the Building industry we have managed to increase both our turnover and profits in this sector.
The Company has a substantial workload in Opencast Mining and is well placed in every way to take advantage of the increased Opencast Coal programme. Mining operations, both in Northumberland and South Wales were very disappointing in the first half of the year, but there was a substantial improvement in the second half which has continued into 1976 with production in excess of target and we see no reason why this should not be maintained.
As to the future, in spite of the world difficulties that exist, morale and confidence remain high and the Directors look forward to a further successful year's trading.'

Copies of the Annual Report may be obtained from The Secretary

DEREK CROUCH (CONTRACTORS) LIMITED
Head Office: Peterborough PE6 7UW

Liquidator balks at Titcombe terms for Norton Villiers sale

By Clifford Webb

Last-minute problems have arisen over the proposed purchase of Norton Villiers, Wolverhampton, by Mr Ronald Titcombe, the Australian oil man. It had been hoped that the contract prepared by the liquidator and approved by the Committee of Inspection would be signed today.

But last night Mr Kenneth Morgan, the Cardiff accountant who was appointed liquidator nearly eight months ago, said: "I find myself unable to accept changes to the contract which have been proposed by Mr Titcombe."

At the London headquarters of Aruntа, the oil consultancy company headed by Mr Titcombe, inquiries were referred to Lord Hesketh, the motor racing patron, whose name has been connected with Mr Titcombe's plans for Wolverhampton. But he too was unavailable for comment.

The existing contract calls for the factory buildings to be bought for £750,000. This would give Mr Titcombe immediate access. He would then have to find a further £2m within three months to pay for the plant and work-in-progress.

Production experts and accountants were introduced to the Wolverhampton plant some weeks ago to prepare for a restart by the new owners. Approaches have also been made to component companies to reestablish supply lines.

There are sufficient partly completed Norton motor cycles and components in the factory to produce about 300 machines. Many of them are special models intended for British police forces.

The action committee representing the 800 workers maintaining a sit-in has been told that employees will be able to buy shares in the proposed company, to be called the British Norton Partnership. They have also been offered six seats on the board, two of which will be non-voting.

Wordplex system launched

By Kenneth Owen
Technology Correspondent

Computer technology has been applied to office word-processing systems—for the easy editing and automatic production of letters and reports—in a new concept announced in London yesterday by Ventek, a Canadian-owned minicomputer company.

Typists sit at video terminals to type and manipulate the text as required. The terminals are linked to magnetic disc storage units, and to a special dual-processor minicomputer.

Wordplex, as the system is called, is aimed at the larger organizations—a minimum of about six terminals would be economic, while the maximum per system is 32. For a typical eight-station, three-printer system the price would be about £56,000.

Increased office productivity, the ability to handle large amounts of text, and flexibility in tailoring systems to individual requirements are claimed. Hardware and software have been developed in California and in Buckinghamshire respectively, and the systems will be assembled at the Ventek factory in north-west London.

Midlands concern over state aid restrictions

The West Midlands Economic Planning Council has told Mr Varley, Secretary of State for Industry, of its concern about proposals to restrict financial aid to companies who make planning agreements with the Government.

In a letter to Mr Varley yesterday, Mr Quinton Hazell, the council's chairman, said: "We question the propriety of the threat implicit in the restriction of financial advantage to those individual trading concerns which comply with government-induced agreements.

"There may be reasons why a company should feel unable to enter into a formal agreement, and it would seem punitive to introduce what amounts to a commercial sanction against them, especially since the planning agreement relationship is expressed to be a wholely voluntary one."

Mr Hazell, commenting on the government discussion paper, "The Contents of a Planning Agreement", also takes exception to the proposed continuance of preferential treatment for the assisted areas.

He says: "Together with other west Midlands regional bodies, the council have on many occasions drawn the attention of ministers to the need for a radical review of regional industrial assistance. We think that an agreement, whose declared objective is to improve industrial performance should not be hamstrung from the outset by constraints of this nature simply because the company is located outside an assisted area."

He also urges Mr Varley to ensure that the system of planning agreements is limited to major companies.

OECD experts raise sights on national recovery projections

From David Blake
Paris, March 9

Senior economists at the Paris-based Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development have slightly raised their estimates of the rate at which European countries are emerging from recession.

The new figures, presented to a meeting of the economic policy committee of the 24-nation organization here today bring the secretariat closer into line with national government projections.

However, the secretariat remains slightly more pessimistic than the individual member states. It now accepts that West Germany will achieve growth for the whole of 1976 or at least 4½ per cent, which is the lower range of German government predictions, suggesting that growth might be as much as 6 per cent.

For France, the secretariat is expecting growth somewhere around 4 per cent, which brings it closer to the government level at a time when there are suggestions that the French may be taking a more cautious view than previously.

One country where there still remains a significant divergence between forecasts by the secretariat and those of the government is Japan. The secretariat is predicting 4 per cent, while Tokyo projects 6 per cent.

OECD maintains that the Japanese government figure cannot be achieved on the basis of domestic demand, which is what the Japanese themselves hope will be the major focus of growth.

The senior officials attending today's meeting are examining not just the arithmetic of forecasting but the more general prospects for recovery. They are particularly concerned with whether the recovery is soundly based so that it can be maintained rather than petering out, and whether it can proceed without causing a new burst of inflation.

The meeting ends tomorrow evening.

Commission urges Britain to resist reflation calls

From David Cross
Brussels, March 9

The European Economic Commission today urged the British Government to "resist the growing pressure to reflate the economy significantly."

This timely advice, which will cheer Mr Healey, Chancellor of the Exchequer, as he draws up next month's Budget, is contained in the Commission's latest economic policy guidelines to member states in the Community.

The Commission also suggests that new arrangements to replace the Government's present pay restraint policy "should be compatible with the overriding objective of bringing the rate of wage inflation closer to that obtaining in the United Kingdom's principal competitors".

Such a policy is an essential precondition for a return to higher levels of employment in the foreseeable future, the Commission maintains.

In its analysis the Commission concedes that "considerable progress" has been made towards reducing the rate of inflation and the deficit on the current balance of payments. Nevertheless, the annual rate of price inflation remains "a source of concern".

Prospects for 1976 point to a small but gradually strengthening recovery in Britain's output.

Swiss prices fall: Switzerland's claim to be the country with the lowest inflation rate is reinforced by a 0.1 per cent drop last month in the consumer price index, now a mere 3 per cent above its level of a year ago. The index also reflects the fact that over the past five years, the average appreciation of the Swiss franc against the 13 main trading currencies has been 45 per cent.

NYSE steps up market status fight

From Frank Vogl
Washington, March 9

Directors of the New York Stock Exchange are now speaking out much more forcefully against big changes in the American securities industry.

They no longer seem interested in compromising, having lost battles with the Securities and Exchange Commission over such issues as the abolition of fixed commission rates and maintenance of the exchange's restrictive rule 394.

At issue is the establishment of a national stock market system. It is supported by numerous large brokerage houses, like Merrill Lynch, and by the SEC and may eventually revolutionize the style of securities dealings, as it foreshadows the effective end of stock exchange floors as the main forum for trading.

The latest approach by the directors of the NYSE was outlined recently by Mr James Needham, the exchange's chairman. In a speech to business executives he said that "somewhere along the way the intent of Congress to strengthen the capabilities and service potential of the United States securities industry seems to have given way to a concept of change merely for the sake of change".

According to Mr Needham the SEC's plans for a national market system are unnecessary and potentially damaging. They will deprive investors of the protection afforded by the New York exchange's regulations. Mr Needham believes they fail to recognize that a central market system, the New York exchange itself, already operates.

To support this point the exchange chairman notes that recently when severe snowstorms forced trading to open in New York 75 minutes late it was seen that only 55 transactions were made on all other exchanges in New York exchange listed stocks. "Many of the other markets simply remained closed until we opened and they had the benefit of the pricing mechanism in New York", he pointed out.

Mr Needham's case against reform is strengthened by criticism of freely negotiated commission rates, forced upon the industry by the SEC last May.

$1,300m loan decision soon

From Our Own Correspondent
Brussels, March 9

Finance ministers of the Nine will have to decide next week whether to accept two huge EEC loans being raised by West German and British bank consortia for Italy and the Republic of Ireland.

According to well-informed European Commission sources, the Deutsche Bank in Frankfurt is making arrangements to raise a record $1,000m (about £530m) loan, and the European Banking Company of London a further $300m on the international money markets.

These funds will be divided between Italy and Ireland, the EEC member states who have decided to make use of the Community's borrowing scheme, which was originally designed to help countries with balance of payments problems. The Italians have requested a total of $1,000m and the Irish $300m.

Although Commission officials in Brussels are unwilling to reveal details of the conditions for the loans, which will have to be approved by finance ministers next Moday, it is understood that the West German loan will be made up partly of six-year securities placed directly with the public at a fixed 8.25 per cent interest rate, and partly of funds put up by the banks themselves over a three to four-year repayment period.

The British loan, which would be for six years, would carry a variable interest rate.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Income tax: a need for 'education'

From Mr J. R. Hough

Sir, More of the hoary old myths about our income tax system have once again raised their ugly heads. May I attempt to dispel them?

In the letter from Mr J. M. Rampton (March 5) he implies that a couple with husband and wife both working are particularly harshly treated and may find themselves on the higher tax rates because their joint wages exceed the ceiling of £4,500 taxable income. This is not so. All they have to do is to notify the Inland Revenue that they wish to be taxed as single people and they will then be dealt with separately, that is they can choose the arrangement under which they will pay least tax.

This myth is, of course, a resurrection in disguise of the notion that "it is cheaper to live in sin than to get married": with respect to income tax payments at least, this is not true.

Secondly, Mr Rampton raises the comparison between an apparently overtaxed Britain and a Continent of Europe enjoying much lower levels of taxation. The following figures are from *Eurostat*, 12/1975:

Central government taxes per head of population (in Eur $)	
Germany	1,028.6
France	848.7
Italy	398.1
Netherlands	955.3
Belgium	992.8
Luxembourg	1,291.3
United Kingdom	702.5

(figures not given for Denmark or Ireland).

I would not want to claim that these figures necessarily show that we are, apart from Italy, the least taxed country in Europe, since much depends on which statistics one uses and how they are presented, but at least they should help to dispel the notion of an excessively overtaxed Britain.

The above figures related to all central government taxes. The point is, of course, that looking at income tax rates in isolation is meaningless. We certainly have higher rates of income tax than any other country in Europe, but we also have lower rates of indirect taxes. When all taxes are put together, total tax bills in the various countries are broadly comparable. In OECD's annual league table of tax incidence, the United Kingdom usually comes about half way up (or down) the table.

Perhaps there is a case for pressing for lower levels of income tax offset by an equal total increase in the bill for indirect taxes? Personally, I have no strong feelings either way about this and it may well be true that there would be beneficial effects on incentives to work; so far as I know, no one has systematically calculated what this would mean in terms of, probably, substantially increased post-tax prices for cars, consumer durables, etc.

Mr P. H. Stunt (March 8) has misread the penultimate paragraph of my previous letter. I am not so naive as to suggest that employees rarely object to paying income tax! My reference to "saving for retirement" was clearly tied to contributions to the company's internal pension scheme and had nothing to do with income tax.

However, I think the greater part of Mr Stunt's letter is essentially a plea for more effective publicity by the government of how the income tax system works and how each of us may quite legally minimize our tax bills. I would strongly support him in this. The fact that all these myths crop up annually must indicate a failure of communication somewhere. I suspect the root problem is that the Inland Revenue have been so overworked and understaffed for many years that they never have time to turn their attention to "educating" the general public.

Yours faithfully,
J. R. HOUGH,
Department of Education,
University of Technology,
Loughborough,
Leicestershire LE11 3TU.
March 8.

Sandilands and monetary liabilities

From Mr Peter L. Watson

Sir, I hope you can find room for one more contribution to the debate on the Sandilands Report as it seems we are now in a position to identify more precisely the differences between pure Sandilands, and Sandilands amended by the addition of a statement of purchasing power changes.

It is pertinent to ask Professor Lawson (letters March 4) how he would measure his income if he owned, rather than owed, £1,000 of 20 per cent 25 year debt in an economy which correctly anticipated the rate of inflation? There are two possible answers.

First Professor Lawson could take the same view on his monetary asset as he takes on monetary liabilities. The income would be the full interest receipt of £200 and we may call this the money income. If the whole of this income were spent each year, Professor Lawson would find that each succeeding year his interest would purchase a smaller and smaller quantity of physical goods.

The second answer involves correcting the interest received for this reduction in its purchasing power. This is achieved by deducting from the interest received, an amount equal to the rate of inflation times the value of the asset. The figure resulting from this calculation we may call the real income. If the whole of this income were spent each year, Professor Lawson would find that, roughly speaking, he could purchase the same amount of physical goods each year.

These two answers are exactly analogous to the two possible treatments of monetary liabilities. If no correction is made for gains on monetary liabilities, the interest is treated as a money cost. If a correction is made, the interest is treated as a real cost. I have always understood that the purpose of correcting accounts for inflation is to produce a real, rather than a money measure of income.

This, broadly speaking, is what the Sandilands Report achieves by its recommended treatment of fixed assets and stocks. Consistency would suggest that all other costs and revenues should be dealt with on a similar basis. Therefore it would be appropriate to allow for gains on monetary liabilities. The alternative treatment combines real and money figures and merely produces a hybrid. This hybrid does have its own beauty: it produces minimum tax bills for highly geared companies in a situation of continuing inflation. However, it has one great flaw: it is meaningless. If we understand this the debate will have contributed more than just hot air.

Yours faithfully,
PETER WATSON,
20 Court Lane,
Dulwich,
London SE21 7DR.
March 4.

Non-executive directors and accountability

From Mr A. S. Watkins

Sir, I read with interest the article by Kenneth Bond (March 2) entitled "For how much longer can the higher paid take the brunt of wage restraint?", and the comparative figures of net earnings published therewith.

I only wish that the article could be published in some of the more "popular" newssheets, and that I could be sure that the contents would be inwardly digested.

An interesting addendum to the chart would be the effective net pay of the self-employed professional man. Take, for example, a £10,000 solicitor or accountant, who is unable to draw (say) more than £8,000 of his audited net profit of £10,000 (the remainder of necessity staying in his practice to provide working capital and some reserve). That singularly unfortunate individual must nevertheless find approximately £3,500 tax, leaving him an effective net pay of £4,500, and a big bump in his practical standard of living. Of course, the rest is there, but it cannot be got at.

If ever there was a case for just a fraction of ingenuity and effort to be exercised by the Government in bringing about an equitable solution to a patently unjust state of affairs, surely this is that case.

Yours faithfully,
ANTHONY S. WATKINS,
20 Richmond Road,
Sutton Coldfield,
West Midlands,
B73 6BJ.
March 3.

"Increase in rates of Reversionary Bonus."

Extracts from the Statement by the Chairman, Mr T. N. Risk, to be presented to the Annual General Meeting on 16th March, 1976.

ECONOMIC OUTLOOK

The problems which dominated my annual review a year ago are still with us. There are welcome signs that the steps which our Government are belatedly taking to counter inflation are having some effect, though at a cost to the living standards of many. As unemployment continues to increase, the battle against inflation will become more difficult and unpopular but failure would be disastrous for all. Life assurance companies are peculiarly vulnerable to inflation since the terms on which their contracts have been made are fixed and cannot be adjusted to allow for increased costs. Further, long term contracts demand stability in the value of the currency in which they are expressed, if policyholders are not to be cheated of their reasonable expectations. We are solidly behind the Government in their intention to restore credibility to our currency.

INVESTMENT CONDITIONS

The change in market levels during the year added approximately £200m. to the value of the assets shown in our accounts a year ago. We judge the value of our assets by the security of the capital and the income they produce and not by their market value at a particular moment. Our judgments are naturally less volatile than those of the market; this approach brought us reassurance when we contemplated the fall in market values at the end of last year but, per contra, we must guard against undue elation at the recovery.

There has been much, and largely ill-informed, criticism in recent months that the investing institutions have not adequately provided finance for industry. I am not persuaded that this claim has any foundation in fact. Uncertainty as to the Government's aims and policies does not breed confidence and the extent of the Government's own borrowings has increased the cost of raising new capital to a prohibitive level when compared with the profits likely to be derived from its investment. This is the crux of a problem which will not be solved by tinkering with symptoms or setting up any elaborate organisation which will not in itself tap any new source of funds for equity investment. A reduction in Government borrowing and a recognition that the life blood of commerce and industry is net profits out of which further investment can be financed are essential.

LEGISLATION

Apart from the direct administrative cost of complying with ever more complicated rules there is a hidden and insidious growth in the costs our policyholders are being called upon to bear as a result of various legislative enactments which have as their object the protection of the consumer. Unfortunately, in the context of our business, such protection is likely to benefit only a minority and for the majority the price at which it is purchased may be high.

NATIONAL PENSIONS

The Government has repeatedly stated its desire to encourage good occupational pension schemes, and the Department of Health and Social Security has shown itself sympathetic to the representations which the pensions industry has made on the need to find some means of limiting the liability to revalue accrued pension rights of employees who leave before pension age. The open-ended nature of this commitment was undoubtedly inhibiting decision and the introduction of new occupational schemes. The announcement made in mid-February that one of the solutions for which the industry had pressed was to be adopted was therefore most welcome.

CANADA

The Company's reputation in Canada is high and is continually maintained by the excellence of the results of its with profits policies and of the investment return on its funds of which there can be no better evidence than the growth of the volume of money committed to us for investment management which now amounts to about $300m. at market value.

VALUATION RESULTS

The main source of our strength, and our ability to meet with success the strains we were put to last year lies in the margin which we have always maintained between the rate of interest we actually earn on our funds and the rates which the actuaries assume will be earned when making their calculations. The changed conditions, and the feeling that the rates of interest ruling at the end of last year were surely abnormal, have led them to feel that the rates assumed in the valuation of our liabilities should be reduced so as to preserve the strength of our valuation basis. We have therefore taken credit for £150m. of the appreciation which has occured in the value of our assets and we have applied virtually the whole of this sum to meeting the cost of the alteration in the basis on which our liabilities have been valued.

BONUSES INCREASED

The high rates of interest available have increased the revenue surplus available for distribution, both here and in Canada, and have permitted a modest, but significant, increase in our rates of reversionary bonus. The drop in the rates of interest assumed in our valuation allows us to put a higher value on the future income expected to be derived from our equity portfolio than in 1974 and this has resulted in an increase in our rates of terminal bonus. For twenty-five years, now, the "Economist" has compiled tables comparing the claim values of policies effected at a fixed premium with different companies. We have been consistently among the leaders in these comparisons and I believe that the current declaration will enable us to maintain a record which is equalled by few and surpassed by none.

Standard Life

The largest mutual life assurance company in the European Community.

£5m Post Office order placed for Chrysler vans

Chrysler UK has won orders worth nearly £5m from the Post Office for 2,265 vans to be delivered over the next 12 months. The bulk of these orders, comprising 1,481 Commer third-door vans with petrol engines, will go to the telecommunications branch. They will be supplied complete with special fitments to Post Office specifications.

Another 34 vans will be supplied to the postal engineering service. Chrysler's Dunstable commercial vehicle plant will supply 750 Commer vans fitted with Perkins diesel engines for postal delivery work.

Houlder Bros seek oil system stake

Houlder Brothers, the offshore drilling and shipping group, and the French-owned Comex diving organization are negotiating to buy a major stake in the Seal subsea oil production system.

The two companies are likely to be involved in further commercial exploitation of the successful research and development work undertaken over the past six years by Seal, a company in which three large oil companies, BP, Mobil, and the French CFP—have a shareholding.

Swedes to cut back steelmaking project

Norrbotten, the Swedish state steel company, is to cut back plans for the country's largest industrial complex, Steelworks 80, including abandonment of its projected collaboration with Krupp of West Germany.

Mr Erik Grafstroem, the chairman, said the cost of the revised project, 13,000m crowns (about £1,500m) at current prices, would be 20 per cent less than the price of the original project.

36pc car imports

Revised figures from the Society of Motor Manufacturers and Traders show that imported models captured more than 36 per cent of the United Kingdom market last month. Just under 24 per cent of the market was taken by European car makers compared with 16.8 per cent a year earlier.

Price check doubts

The Government's voluntary price check scheme does not appear to have had a great deal of impact on the hardware trade Lord Redmayne, chairman of the Retail Consortium, said yesterday in Reading.

THE BANK OF NEW YORK

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CABLES: LONBANKONE, LONDON E.C.3.
MAIN OFFICE: 48 WALL STREET, NEW YORK, N.Y. 10015.
Incorporated with limited liability in the State of New York, U.S.A.

The brief advertisement below appeared on February 23, 1784, heralding the founding of New York's first bank—The Bank of New York.

And that date, significantly, was a year before the U.S. dollar was named the official currency by Congress.

Throughout the years since then, the Bank has established an enviable record of quality, strength, integrity and personal service and these are the qualities on which the Bank still prides itself today.

BANK

IT appearing to be the disposition of the Gentlemen in this City to establish a BANK on liberal principles, the stock to consist of specie only, they are therefore hereby invited to meet To-Morrow Evening at Six o'Clock, at the Merchants Coffee House where a plan will be submitted to their consideration

from New York Packet 23 February 1784

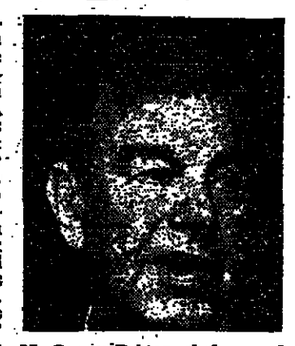
BEFORE THERE WAS A U.S. DOLLAR, THERE WAS A NEW YORK BANK.

صكذا من الاصل

هكذا من الأصل

BY THE FINANCIAL EDITOR

Fisons strengthens its capital base



Mr George Burton, chairman of Fisons: a progressive improvement expected from fertilizers.

...ms' overseas aspira... terms of production ... marketing, and the ...he United Kingdom ...rations remain cash ... their own right, ... funding plans ...e come as no great ... Not that last year ... substantial rise in ... borrowings — up ...m to £17.8m net— ...m debt rose from ... £16.2m with about ...f the rise accounted ...wings on the group's ...ti-currency facility. ...en, year end debt as ...ge of shareholders' ... up from 66 to 82 per ...ure that the rights ...lly halves.

...ves the question of ...isons can go in 1976 ...aintaining earnings ...larged capital. And ...wing a notional in... ...efit, the prospects ... too bad. Fertilizers, ...fits fell back by just ...d in the second half ...hould show progres... ...vement if the slightly ...ood in farming is ...o go by.

...micals, which have ... strongly through ...ion, should continue ...l as economies pick ... Ficon and Nortron ... make more signifi... ...ributions to profits

...g maintained earn... ...e increased capital, ... would be on a pro... ...x-rights p/e ratio of ... That might not ...sonable, but a pro... ...x-right yield of 4.9 ...an hardly be called ... While historic ... suggests that Fisons ...e afforded a slightly ...idend sweetner. It is ...remember that Fisons ... be a beneficiary of ...type accounting.

...5 (1974)
...ion £98.7m
...m (£178m)
...ofits £16.7m (£14.6m)
...er share 36.4p (30.3p)
...gross 16.1p (14.7p)

...ong

...ing into ...ear

...at last beginning to ...rom the motor com... ...pliers that restocking ...ay by the car manu... Thus, while Arm... ...ipment reports a re... ...original equipment ...the half year to end... ...compounded by the ...oblems, it is now ... brisk improvement ...usiness.

... replacement side is ...as strongly as ever, ...he broadening of the ... and the expansion ...stribution network, ... therefore to be good ...expect at least a con... ...the second half of ...alf profits growth of ...nting to £4m or more ... year.

...ould, moreover, be... ...progressively more ...rom the Spanish, ...and South African ... which contributed ...tle in the first half. ...panies have been ... some reequipment, ...ently largely com...

...ovements are already ... cash flow which has ...ciently buoyant to ...d Armstrong to cut ...m overdraft ... of some 4 per cent ... shares at 71p is ...ing this, but prospec... ...e ratio is still only ... which suggests the ...d go higher.

...975-76 (1974-75)
...on £15.7m
...m (£14.4m)
...fits £1.81m (£1.36m)
...ross 1.01p (0.90p)

...W YORK

...RE WA... ...LAR, ...AS A BAN...

De Beers

Diamond sales recover

Results from De Beers Consolidated Mines for 1975 have to some extent been overtaken by events. But they need to be viewed against the background of two important new factors: first, of course, the political situation in Africa and, secondly, changes in the pattern of demand for diamonds.

With international, and particularly American, economies recovering, diamond sales should have a good year. The first two sights this year have been good with the February sale apparently setting a new record in dollar terms. Last year the diamond account was 10.7 per cent down at R216.8m, and a near 42 per cent increase in the second half has to be set against an exceptionally poor final six months of 1974.

Moreover, the margin on Central Selling Organisation sales was also down. However, the 8.5 per cent in pre-tax profits of R286.2m was translated in a marginal post tax increase from R201.3m to R220.7m because of a one-off gain from the change in South West African taxation.

The shares, at 224p last night, may react poorly to the figures; the dividend has been increased in line with the company's conservative policy to 28 cents, but some optimists had been thinking of 30 cents or more. A yield of 7.4 per cent cum premium and a p/e ratio of 6 suggests that buying opportunities may present themselves but the political factor must be a burden for a company which derives more than a third of its earnings from South West Africa.

Final: 1975 (1974)
Capitalization £806m
Income R322.3m (R342.4m)
Pre-tax profits R286.2m (R312.9m)
Earnings per share 60.9 cents (56 cents)
Dividend gross 28 cents (25 cents)

United Biscuits

Still finding growth

United Biscuits continued its impressive performance last year, with profits some 61 per cent higher. But the emphasis is changing. Firstly, the dramatic recovery at Keebler, the United States acquisition, that has provided the jam on the group's earnings growth over the past 18 months, peaked in the final half of 1975. Secondly, United's UK divisions look set for a strong upturn in the current year.

Keebler turned in trading profits of £4.6m in the final six months, roughly the same as in the first half. But the annual increase in overseas trading profits from £3.9m to £7.2m would have been even better had it not been for the continuation of heavy losses in Spain to bring the year's total to £1¼m. The latter situation looks like remedying itself, with a breakeven result anticipated for the final half of the current year. Meanwhile, the profits trend at Keebler is still upwards, but at a more sedate pace.

But it is the domestic market that looks particularly favourable for United. Sales were up by nearly a fifth, and trading profits by more than that in the final six months of 1975, when lower prices for key raw materials helped to widen margins.

Despite some worries as to the course of commodity prices in the final half (although the group is budgeting for a rise of just 3 per cent in 1976 as against 22 per cent last year), United's pre-tax profits must be heading for a minimum of £26m. There is a further bonus in a full year impact of rights issue cash on borrowings and finance charges, combined with lower working capital requirements this year. The shares performed strongly against the market last year, but for the past few months have tended to merely keep abreast of it.

Food manufacturers might be ready for a general uprating, despite the political clouds and United's shares, 116p on a prospective p/e ratio of around nine can be expected to outperform the sector, despite the rather unattractive 3.8 per cent yield.

Final: 1975-76 (1974-75)
Capitalization £113.6m
Sales £430.5m (£326.5m)
Pre-tax profits £22.3m (£13.8m)
Earnings per share 12.2p (8.3p)
Dividend gross 4.35p (3.42p)

BSR

Volume returns

Ever since wafer-thin interim profits were announced last September, BSR's share price has been travelling too fast for comfort, almost doubling in the intervening period to 115p—and spurred on over the last couple of weeks by the fanfare over its new up-market turntable. Yesterday's full year figures of £9.43m against £13.53m in 1974 were very much in line with expectations.

None the less, the second half has picked up strongly with profits of £8.1m comparing favourably with £1.3m in the first half and last year's £4.9m. From July record turntable production picked up smartly from 75,000 to 185,000 units on the back of recovery in the United States market which takes about two-thirds of BSR's output.

And in the volume-sensitive market that BSR dominates that has done wonders for margins in the second half. But for the year as a whole these were still some eight points below the year before at 12 per cent. Provided margins can get back to the 25 per cent level of earlier years, BSR should be capable of £22-£24m this year now that production is at a record level of 240,000 units.

Continued strength of the more important sound reproduction side will more than offset the 30-40 per cent drop in demand now being experienced in the consumer products division. Even with the return to a more normal tax charge, the shares are selling at only seven times prospective earnings but a yield of 3.1 per cent, however well covered, is not enough bait for institutional investors who will see no benefit from the "Accutrac" turntable until the following year at the earliest.

Final: 1975 (1974)
Capitalization £85.4m
Sales £91.4m (£81.1m)
Pre-tax profits £9.43 (£13.53m)
Earnings per share 8.75p (10.08p)
Dividend gross 3.52p (3.27p)

Oliver Stanley

The case for reforming company taxation

This year the Chancellor faces separate problems in the personal and corporate tax structures. Let us naively suppose that Mr Healey's main Budget objectives are towards continued pay restraint and inflation control, while seeking to build a solid base upon which industry can mount its medium-term recovery. That would seem not too daft a programme for any Chancellor of any political persuasion to set himself in 1976.

Then, on the personal tax side, the problem is obvious and the route along which he should drive to solve it very clearly signposted: the basic direct tax rate of 35 per cent plus 5.75 per cent "social security" tax (from April 6) is too high, its threshold is too low and the progression from nil to 40.5 per cent is too steep.

At £4,000 a year a United Kingdom's taxpayer's average rate is 22.4 per cent, compared with 11 per cent in Germany and 2.8 per cent in France. This situation has created the notorious and well documented poverty trap, severe overtime disincentive, executive emigration and a general middle income squeeze.

Raising the threshold

All this Mr Healey cannot possibly ignore, the only question being whether he will go for a general increase in personal reliefs—which would work its way through all income brackets—or some new specialized small income relief, which would concentrate on raising the 1975-76 threshold of £28 a week for a married man with two children.

A lifting of the threshhold by £600 per annum would give a married man personal relief of £1,555, the equivalent of a £6 a week pay increase. It would give more to the middle range executive at, say, £6,000 per annum, who is into the higher rate bands—there is no lack of justification at that level and Mr Healey has already indicated that he is thinking on these lines.

It is in the corporate tax sector that more awkward fiscal management problems arise. In fact, it would be fair to say that the Chancellor—with the aid of his predecessors—has made a terrible mess of corporate tax, so much so that there is now a case for abolishing it altogether.

We have got a frighteningly high rate of 52 per cent, but a relatively tiny yield (see table)—less than that for 1973-74. Corporate profits have, of course, fallen back, but the main cause is the stock relief provision introduced in November, 1974. The purpose was to give relief from corporation tax for the effect of inflation on a company's stocks.

Under the historic valuation system, tax is chargeable upon the difference between cost and sale prices, paying no regard to the fact that the sale proceeds wil be applied in purchasing replacement stock at current cost and to that extent will not be available to pay tax.

The stock appreciation relief—a formula hastily devised in the liquidity crisis atmosphere of the 1974 winter—attempts to meet the point and permits companies to reduce taxable profits by the increase in stock values during a year. This is a deferral, not a forgiveness of tax, and the opening valuation for the succeeding year is correspondingly adjusted.

The weakness of this machinery is now emerging: first, it is a formula which taeks no account of changed stock *volumes*. A company which permits its stock to mount up to inefficiently high levels gets tax relief as a reward for doing so.

Secondly, it has the effect of creating deferred tax liabilities in a company's balance sheet, on a scale which may affect a company's whole financial position and borrowing capacities.

Thirdly—despite the conclusion of Sandilands—there is an argument in favour of the total *exemption* of holding gains on stock, rather than deferral and clawback each year.

Fourthly, the manner in which the relief has been introduced—two separate bites at the cherry so far—has created much uncertainty in industry, as companies are finding it unusually awkward to forecast their next year's tax liabilities.

ESTIMATED DIRECT TAX YIELD 1975-76

	1975/6 £m	1965/6 £m
PAYE (Schedule E)	12,000+	2,191
Other income taxes: (Schedules A to D)	2,008	1,492
Residual surtax	85	204
Death duties	315	293
Capital gains tax	325	NIL
"Corporation Tax" (mostly (ACT)	2,125	437*
	£17,078	£4,617

*Profits tax and EPT

How formula has worked

Despite all these disadvantages, it can be argued that the formula has in practice worked well—only too well. Mainstream corporation tax bills have dropped sharply, leaving in many cases a liability consisting only of advance corporation tax, the tax related to the amount of dividends or other distributions paid by a company in a particular financial year. Advance corporation tax can in theory be set against an y liability to mainstream corporation tax chargeable upon profits. But if there is no mainstream corporation tax, ACT cannot be credited.

That is what has been happening, largely because of stock adjustment relief. Corporation tax has been transformed into a dividend withholding tax—exactly what it was not supposed to be.

It is not shown in the CIR Report* how much of the forecast corporation tax is ACT, but some idea of the respective proportions can be deduced from the statement that of the increase in corporation tax between 1973-74 and 1974-75—some £596m—£575m represented increased ACT.

In fact, 1974-75 corporation tax was £124 m higher than forecast because of "errors in the estimation of the timing of impact of stock relief".

What seems to emerge—extrapolating from these figures—is that corporation tax has become a fairly meaningless exercise in terms of yield and the long debate in 1971 now seems very academic. It is arguable that when (if?) corporate profits rise again, the natural position will be restored. On the other hand, if stock relief is to be reviewed and revised, uncertainly will continue.

Sandilands (Appendix 3) devised an ingenious and complex new formula "based upon a suggestion put to us by the Board of Inland Revenue". This requires stock volumes to be taken into account and leaves unsolved the problems of accumulating tax liabilities in companies' accounts.

It does not seem—to put it mildly—an ideal answer to the problem, nor—to be fair—did Sandilands put it forward as such. In the end that report recommended a Royal Commission to deal with the tax problems of inflation accounting, indexing of capital gains, a review of writing down allowances and the practical effects of the ACT system.

Certainly some better stock adjustment relief machinery must be found soon. That machinery must be sufficiently sensitive to restore corporation tax—chargeable at a less deterrent rate—to its rightful place in the yield table and it must eliminate the damaging cumulative effect.

In the meantime, all forms of direct tax, including corporation tax, look meaningless in terms of yield, save those taxes which operate at source—that is, PAYE and, as it now seems, ACT. Deduction at source apparently makes up some £14,000m out of the total take of £17,000m.

A record of trivial yields

This looks ominous, in the sense that the only taxes producing any significant yield are those which are unavoidable. All the rest—individual trading profits, taxes on interest, capital gains tax and death duties, all of which have much higher collection costs—produce fairly trivial amounts; and this is despite rates of charge which are unprecedentedly high.

In the last decade, the yield from PAYE has risen sixfold and the yield from taxes not withheld at source has risen by about half. The combination of high rates and low yields suggests some fall-off in standards of tax compliance in Britain and demonstrates how ineffective are marginal rates of 52 per cent (corporation tax), 98 per cent (income taxes), and 75 per cent (death duties).

The truth of the matter is that Mr Healey can afford the most sweeping reductions in tax rates next month—"afford" in every sense, save the political one.

** Report of HM Inland Revenue* (118th Report) year to March 21, 1975 (Cmd 6302).

'Unemployment remains high and there is doubt about business confidence'

Unwarranted American euphoria about the pace of economic recovery

Frank Vogl

The American economy is now moving sluggishly away from the worst recession since World War Two. But so many problems are still in evidence that an objective analyst must deem it premature to claim that a solid recovery is under way.

Objectivity about the economy has at the moment, however, been cast to the winds in the United States. Business magazines and newspapers are helping to foster a kind of euphoria about the country's inflation-free and brilliant economic outlook.

New reports are being published daily by banks, brokerage houses, economists and the government that boast of the economy's improving health.

The bullish atmosphere is being strengthened by increasingly glowing economic predictions by President Ford, while the advances on the stock market are being widely hailed as evidence of the bright outlook.

People who express doubt that the optimism is warranted are swiftly shown official figures for recent months indicating falls in unemployment and the inflation rate but increases in factory orders, retail sales, industrial output and corporate profits.

Many serious problems are being given little attention in the press or by so called experts in the government and on Wall Street. Yet a set of statistics for recent months that show improvements from levels that were the worst seen since World War Two are not a basis for an accurate description of the true state of the economy. Nor for that matter can much credibility be attached by an objective observer to statements by a President on the campaign trail and seeking election as his party's presidential candidate.

The economy has so many disturbing aspects that some of them demand attention. Unemployment, for example, remains high by any standards at about 8 per cent, and even government economists candidly admit, when pressed, that there is little prospect of a big reduction in the level in the next 12 months.

Then there seems to be cause for doubting whether business confidence is anything like as strong as some Wall Street pundits suggest. Demand for commercial and industrial loans has fallen significantly so far this year, data on inventories does not indicate that rebuilding of business stocks has yet started on a large scale and investment surveys continue to show mixed results.

At best only a most modest rise in investment spending in real terms seems likely this year and to some extent this is hardly surprising in view of the much overlooked fact that plant capacity use remains on average under 75 per cent.

Then there are a series of potentially dangerous problems lurking ahead. Some large trade unions have indicated that they will be seeking big wage increases in forthcoming negotiations, despite the high level of unemployment. The present year has a particularly heavy schedule of collective bargaining and the inflation trend could seriously be affected by the outcome.

Another worry on the inflation front is food prices, which have moved lower in recent months, but which an increasing number of agricultural experts now predict will rebound strongly in a few months. Energy prices, too, may also rise greatly, partly because of some relaxation in American controls and partly because dependence on foreign energy is rising steadily.

Finally, the public sector can give cause only for concern. The federal budget is likely this year to reach a record deficit and government borrowing could well exceed $90,000m. Many leading cities face acute financing problems which could force large cuts in spending.

This would be bound to dampen the economy, while the prospect of some bankruptcies cannot be totally discounted, with all the psychological impact they could produce.

Certainly the economy has grown stronger since last summer, but it remains in fragile health, subject still to many uncertainties and likely to encounter numerous serious difficulties in months ahead. Glowing predictions are simply not warranted at present and suggestions by an increasing number of political writers that Mr Ford's election chances are sharply improving because the economy is doing so well appear at the moment to be totally irresponsible.

Business Diary: Shaikh at bay • Teacher's pet

...niformed and plain ...urity agents toting ...od two-way radios ...ng the normally ...00 acres of the Bay ...t Club in Panama ...a.

... there to protect ...med Zaki Yamani, ...rabian oil minister, ... longer as fond of ...er and thither as ... be. The shaikh's ...y about security ...urder last year of ...m, King Faisal, and ...napping along with colleagues in Vienna ...er.

...minister made the ...f his safety the con... ...s coming to Florida ... Saudi Arabia's pro... ...ver of the Aramco ...

... taking no chances, ...e State Department, ... appears to be coor... ...urity. Among those ...he shaikh are a pri... ...a security company, ...ervice, the FBI, the ...e, special United ...hals, the air force ...e.

...anies taking part in ...ere made to swear ... would keep secret ...ct of a meeting let ...e they would be ...ever, a local repor... ...out the secret after ...na City began in... ...ok and sound like ...ump.

...h is thought to be ...d that word has ... His embassy in ... will even now say ...e shaikh is "some... ...e United States".



Hollowood

"According to Margaret Thatcher one in three trade unionists is a Conservative. Well, which of us is it?"

Enlightenment

Derek Robinson has been known in trade union circles as "the pitman's friend" since, as vice-chairman of the Pay Board, he produced the "relativities" report which subtly offered the Heath government a way out of the impasse with the miners.

Robinson now looks like developing a parallel reputation as the academic's friend in his new role as chairman of the Social Science Research Council, if the current edition of the SSRC newsletter is anything to go by.

The SSRC, established by Royal Charter in 1965, promotes social science research by channelling public money into projects deemed likely to increase the sum of human knowledge.

Thus, Edinburgh anthropologist P. M. Jeffrey is to receive £5,961 towards a study entitled "Selection of spouses in a specific population of Muslims in Delhi".

At Hull, theologist D. L. Gosling is down for £1,320 towards an inquiry into "Interaction of scientific and religious beliefs of Thai scientists".

Far out though these projects may seem, it is at least barely possible to understand what they're all about—if not why anybody other than the academics themselves should be interested.

Would, however, that the same could be said for the £3,943-worth promised by Sussex social psychologists G. R. Semin and A. S. R. Manstead—"An investigation into the cognitive aspects of social facilitation effects". If all that study were to come up with was an explanation of what the title meant, it wouldn't be money entirely wasted.

Uruguay policy

David Donald, general manager of the ultra-conservative Edinburgh-based Standard Life assurance office, recalled yesterday the circumstances in which the company decided to pull out of Uruguay.

It was in 1968—when the cost of running the business under South American inflation rates had reached the then unacceptable level of a quarter of premium income. Some staff were retained to handle the run-off of long-term policies and since then administration costs have risen to three times premium income.

Had Standard Life, one of Britain's biggest mutual life offices, been doing business only in Uruguay it would have gone broke long ago, Donald said. However, chairman Tom Risk chimed in to say that in this country expenses on the whole of the business have now reached 24 per cent of premium income, roughly average for the industry.

Into Bat

Action on Smoking and Health, the anti-smoking pressure group, was let off a possibly contentious hook when it recently received an interim dividend cheque from Rothmans International for the interesting sum of £0.00.

ASH is technically a dealer in tobacco shares, in so far as it buys minimum lots of shares, retaining only the number it needs to be able to appear at company meetings.

Executive director Peter Daube is hoping for a better dividend from the group's grudging investment in British American Tobacco. Daube is working on questions for the BAT annual meeting tomorrow week, one of which is likely to be: "How many deaths have you been responsible for in the last 12 months?"

Established in 1971 by the Royal College of Surgeons, ASH is partly financed by the Department of Health and Social Security (the DHSS being funded in part by tobacco excise taxes).

Liverpool lament

The decision to save money by closing the American Consulate-General in Liverpool comes in rather sad contrast to this year's free-spending bicentennial fervour. American officials have been on tap in Liverpool since 1790, except for a brief hiccup between 1812 and 1815 when the United Kingdom and the United States were at war.

That regrettable interlude was smoothed over in the most diplomatic of fashions. When the office reopened its doors after the war, the Consul General was none other than the same man who had first opened the office, a Virginian called James Maury.

The closure will cause the transfer of three officials, the loss of nine local jobs and some inconvenience to northern companies.

Liverpool is—or was—one of the oldest postings in the American foreign service and grew out of the city's primacy in the slave and cotton trades. For a time in the 1850s one of the Consuls General was the novelist Nathaniel Hawthorne. The present chief official is George Peterson, who came from Okinawa two and a half years ago.

He, too, would have in the course of time rejoiced in the title of Consul General.

Carrington Viyella Ltd

Extracts from the Statement by the Chairman, Mr. L. Regan, and the Directors' Report for the year ended 31 December, 1975



TRADING RESULTS AND DIVIDENDS
Trading profit for the year before reorganisation costs and interest amounted to £12,055,000 (1974 £14,847,000). Profit before taxation and extraordinary items amounted to £5,561,000 (1974 £9,016,000).
The interim dividend of 0.4875p per share was paid on 1 January 1976. The directors are recommending the payment of a final dividend of 1.225p per share bringing the total dividend on the ordinary shares to 1.7125p (1974 1.7275p).
This decision was arrived at after consideration of the reduced borrowing position and the better prospects anticipated for the Group. After taking into account the related tax credit, the 1975 dividends are the same as those for 1974.
The gross charge to profit and loss account for both reorganisation and rationalisation costs was £2,754,000 (1974 £335,000).
The return on capital for the year (before charging reorganisation and rationalisation costs) was 9.0% (1974 11.7%).
External sales in 1975 were £232,776,000, being 15% greater than in 1974.

REVIEW OF YEAR'S OPERATIONS
Throughout the world 1975 has proved to be the most difficult year the textile industry has had to face for many years.
Trading conditions had begun to deteriorate towards the end of 1974 and were expected to progress accordingly during 1975. In view of this, it was decided, for commercial and financial reasons, to contain stock levels. This resulted in short time working in the early part of the year, which, together with the poor trading conditions, had the inevitable adverse effect on profits. The beneficial results of this action are shown in stock levels, which in spite of inflation are similar to those at the end of 1974, and total Group borrowings which have been reduced during the year by £2 million.
It was also necessary to ensure that the Company should be strengthened in order to take better advantage of future improved trading conditions. It was therefore decided to withdraw from certain marginal and loss-making operations and implement the closure of seven of our plants. The benefits obtained from these actions will be felt from 1976 onwards.

EXPORTS AND OVERSEAS COMPANIES
Despite the world-wide recession exports from United Kingdom companies were £22.2 million (1974 £22.5 million). The sales of the overseas companies were £40.8 million (1974 £33.5 million).

CAPITAL EXPENDITURE Group capital expenditure was slightly less than in 1974 at £9.0 million, of which £1.7 million was invested overseas.
During the next two years we shall invest a greater proportion of funds in the garment factories. When this programme has been completed, substantial productivity gains will have been achieved, giving increased production of garments from modernised and re-equipped factories.

OUTLOOK It would appear that the world-wide recession has now levelled off, but general economic problems peculiar to the United Kingdom make it difficult to give forecasts with confidence.
The development of our business is our constant concern and, of necessity, changing trading patterns demand changes in emphasis. We have the ability to make these changes.
I believe that one of our most valuable assets is our merchandising skills in garments, home furnishings, carpets and fabrics and we will continue to exploit these strengths, supported by the efficient control of production from yarn to finished products.
I am confident that, provided there is no political catastrophe, the benefits of our past and planned capital investment will enable the Company to progress and prosper.

The Annual General Meeting will be held at The Dorchester, London, on 1 April, 1976.
Copies of the Annual Report can be obtained upon request to The Secretary, 24 Great Pulteney Street, London W1R 3DB.

FINANCIAL NEWS AND MARKET REPORTS

Stock markets

Checked by property halt and Fisons' rights

Though both the overnight strength of Wall Street and a steadier pound were working in its favour, the market made a disappointing showing yesterday.

The key was the sudden suspension of Amalgamated Investment & Property which sent a shudder through the property sector and acted as a damperer on the general sentiment. The feeling is that AIP may not be the last.

Tomorrow Shell should please with word that 1975 profits easily beat £900m against £1 billion. Some are going for £925m, thanks to a good final quarter. This year the group has chemicals and better times in oil going for it, apart from overseas earnings.

The £20m rights issue from Fisons did not come as a complete surprise, but it was enough to weaken the shares 8p to 400p and another 5p after hours. Most of the leaders closed in a narrowly mixed range and the *FT* Index just 0.1 off, at 411.4, having spent most of the day on both sides of its overnight level.

Wall Street's brief excursion through the 1,000 mark had little effect in late trading.

The fall in United States Treasury bill yields at the latest auction, together with the calmer tone for sterling on the exchanges, produced a rally in gilt-edged prices following the recent fall.

Long-dated stocks closed with net gains of about ½ point, having at one stage been net ¼ point higher. Similarly, short-dated stocks closed with ¼ to 3-16 point advances, having been ½ to 5-16 point better at one stage.

However, dealers said that trading was very thin and the market remained nervous.

Unchanged among the "blue chips" were British American Tobacco 355p, Glaxo 397p and Courtaulds 153p, while Unilever gave up 2p to 452p. But ICI made a more striking movement, advancing 4p to 397p.

Immediately after the suspension news there were losses ranging between 2p and 5p among the property leaders. But some late firmness had both Land Securities 181p and MEPC 82p just a penny easier and Law Land unchanged at 67p.

Elsewhere on the pitch, Great Portland lost 2p to 238p, Regional "A" 2½p to 35p and Town & City 1p to 17½p.

A firm start was made by the engineers, but after a weaker tone had set in, GKN ended a penny to the good at 338p, and Tube Investments were unchanged at 350p.

But a bullish statement at the annual meeting set off once again that high-flying share Weyburn Engineering and at the end of the day the shares had leapt no less than 35p to 565p. The company has a high export content in its business.

Following a new bid approach, Emu Wine were marked up 15p to 185p, but both Bank Bridge, at 2½p, and British Benzol 21p were off a point at one time following the withdrawal of the Tranwood offer.

Speculative buying gave a lift to Furness Withy 3p to 217p and Robb Caledon 5p to 53p. In the latter case, nationalization compensation was the spur.

In banks, Barclays 275p, Lloyds 220p and Midland 268p all shed 5p and National Westminster stayed firm at 240p. A feature was the new Lloyds shares, the most active stock of the day and down by 2p to 15p.

One of the firmest spots in a dull insurance sector was Royal where the gain was of 4p to 338p. Back in banks, Hong Kong & Shanghai responded well to Far East advices and jumped 14p to 334p.

Falls among gold shares were mainly between the 5p and 50p range, but worse than that were Western Holdings £1.50 to £21.50, St Helena £1 to £16.50 and President Brand £1 to £13.50. Tin shares were helped by the metal price and typical were Geevor 5p to 175p, Ayer Hitam 5p to 195p and Gopeng 5p to 185p.

Ahead of results De Beers were off 8p to 215p at one stage but still before the figures a late firming had the issue 1p up to 224p.

In oils, Shell ahead of tomorrow's figures were seven points to the good at 402p, while BP put on 5p to 605p.

At 44p, Galliford Brindley is finding support. Last year this building group hoisted profits for the sixth time running, to nearly £1.5m, and the feeling is that the group is heading for nearly £1.8m this year.

A "rights" left Staflex untouched at 54p while Distillers continued to be aided by export potential and firmed a penny to 148p.

From companies reporting the pick was Transport Development which put on 5p to 60p, BSR gave up 3p to 115p and Inveresk Paper 4p to 65½p. United Biscuits stayed firm at 118p after profits even better than expected.

Some think that Inchcape is eyeing Leslie & Godwin, the Lloyd's insurance broker. The attractions are a ready-made underwriting agency and overseas earnings. The shares jumped 11p to 125p, a gain of 17p in two days. Minet Holdings and Jardine Mathesen are also mentioned, but there was a denial.

Equity turnover on March 8 was £65.25m (20,969 bargains). According to Exchange Telegraph active stocks yesterday were Lloyds Bank new, ICI, Shell, Unilever, Burmah, De Beers, Standard Chartered new, BLMC, Distillers, Consolidated Gold Fields, Rank "A", Fisons and Beechams.

Latest dividends

Company (and par values)	Ord div	Year ago	Pay date	Year's total	Prev year
Armstrong Equip Int	0.66	—	14/5	—	1.68
De Beers Fin	20	17	—	28	25
G. H. Downing (50p) Int	4	3.39	—	—	8.54
Inveresk (50) Fin	3.1	3.1	23/4	4.35	4.35
Inv Trust Guernsey (50) Fin	3.5	3	1/5	5.25	4.75
Merchants Trust (25) Fin	1.25	1.1	11/5	1.95	1.8
Staflex (25) Fin	1.7	1.09	—	2.9	2.22
Trans Dev (25) Fin	1.92	1.74	14/5	2.85	2.67

Dividends in this table are shown net of tax on pence per share. Elsewhere in Business News dividends are shown on a gross basis. To establish gross, multiply the net dividend by 1.54.

Inveresk revival hopes now depend on higher selling prices

Down in the dumps last year Inveresk Group, the producers of paper and board and packaging materials, now awaits this year's second-half for any improvement.

For the year to December 31 pre-tax profits dived from £4.66m to £1.26m on a turnover down from £37.89m to £34.63m. Earnings a share on a net basis were 7.6p against 29.5p and on a nil basis 8.8p compared with 31.4p. The total payout is 6.71p gross against 6.5p.

The group is to continue with the "most rigid economies". What it makes this year will depend to an increasing extent on whether additional costs unavoidably incurred can be recovered in higher selling prices (a rise is likely in April).

On the brighter side customers' stocks now appear to be well down. Demand, the board says, is showing an "encouraging" improvement. It adds a rider that present signs are that a sustained increase in general demand is unlikely to appear in the first six months, but things should be better after then.

Marchwiel confident

Mr A. J. McAlpine, chairman of Marchwiel Holdings, the building and civil engineering group taking in McAlpine Construction, is confident. Writing in the annual report he says that while the forward order book is a bit below last year in real terms, it should present no problem in the coming year.

The chairman stresses the need to increase the overseas workload and cushion the group against swings in public work at home.

The current year has started well and he will be disappointed if there is no improvement in profits. In the year to October 31, Marchwiel's pre-tax profits advanced from £5.23m to £7.01m. Turnover rose from £98m to £144m.

Slump forces Small & Tidmas down

The textile slump continued to take its toll of the John C. Small & Tidmas Group in the second half of last year. Profits declined from £118,000 to £49,000, leaving the group with a 1975 pre-tax profit of £70,000 against £225,000. But turnover grew from £2.4m to £2.6m.

Shareholders will receive a dividend of 3.08p, against 3.45p. Earnings a share were 2.86p, gross compared with 8.52p.

Standard Life ahead

Standard Life Assurance, one of the leading Scottish mutual life offices, managed an above average growth of 30 per cent in new premium income on United Kingdom ordinary life business last year. World wide premiums rose 28 per cent to nearly £141m and total income, including annuity considerations and investment income, was up from £226m to £278m.

The group, which is one of the first United Kingdom life offices to publish 1975 accounts, because of a November 15 year end, was able to take credit for £150m in the ordinary long term insurance funds at the year end, because of the 1975 recovery in investment values. This brought the value of the fund up to £1,275m.

Receiver in at Fairfax Jersey

Fairfax Jersey, the Manchester-based textile group with a plant in Northern Ireland, has called in a receiver. In a statement, the board said the Northern Ireland authorities have refused further cash aid and its principal bankers were "unwilling to continue their support".

Last November the board said it had negotiated a £350,000 loan from the Northern Ireland Finance Corporation; a rationalization programme to arrest last year's £240,000 pre-tax loss was underway.

Now Fairfax says that the plan had not worked as quickly as expected. When the board called a halt to share dealings yesterday afternoon, the shares stood at 9p. This valued the group at £270,000, against an issued capital of £330,000.

May decision on option trading link

By the end of this month it should be known whether joint European option trading with Amsterdam is technically feasible. It will then be up to the Stock Exchange Council to decide in May whether it wants to trade in options at all, and if so whether a joint scheme with Amsterdam is desirable. In April it should be decided whether there are any insuperable obstacles to going ahead.

Options consultant Mr Peter Durlacher said yesterday that London does not want a "Concorde" situation where agreement is reached and cooperation then proceeds regardless of cost.

A Reuters message from Amsterdam said that Amsterdam would "go it alone" if agreement appeared unlikely. Joint operation of option trading would require an electronic price information system linking the two cities.

Helene damper

With indications of higher 1975 profits from Helene of London, a maker and retailer of fashion and leisurewear, comes news that a supplier to one of its subsidiaries, Mark Russell, has called a creditors meeting. Mark Russell is owed about £250,000. It is making full provision for that amount in its accounts for the year.

Helene adds that profits before tax and the provision should amount to about £700,000. In 1974, the group made £580,000. The board comments that Mark Russell is solvent and it will continue to receive the support of its parent company. Even so the shares weakened on the news.

Campari scrip scheme

The board of Campari, the leisure group, is going ahead with a scrip alternative to the cash interim dividend. But shareholders will have to take at least 0.1p a share of this 0.85p dividend in cash to preserve the group's trustee status. The scrip issue works out at one share for every 34.08 already held.

Local loans steady

Local authority loans stay at 10¾ per cent for the second week running. Among those borrowing £1m and more, are Merseyside Passenger Transport Executive, Stoke-on-Trent, Surrey, Doncaster and Mid Glamorgan (£1.5m). Derbyshire has raised £1m at 11¼ per cent, due March, 1978.

E. Sussex stands firm

In its latest circular to shareholders, the board of East Sussex Engineering Group points out that the shares are higher than the 30.03p a share cash offer from Aurora Holdings. It repeats its advice to take no action.

French firms' results

Three French companies announce results for 1975.

Cie Bancaire, major lending institution's parent company, had net profits of Fr33.76m against Fr75.1m. The company is to pay a dividend of Fr8 (same).

Pricel SA, holding with textile and chemical interests, shows net profit of Fr26.2m against Fr26m. Operating profit was Fr27.9m against Fr28.3m.

Carrefour, a major retailer, had a net profit of Fr111m against Fr93.9m. The company proposes a net dividend of Fr39, the same as that of 1974.—AP Dow Jones.

Bid for Alsthom state

Chantiers De L'Atlantique SA is thinking of taking a stake in STE Generale De Constructions Mecaniques Alsthom SA, according to Atlantique company sources.

Last week a CIE Generale De L'Electificte (CGE) spokesman said CGE had no immediate intention of reducing its 5 per cent stake in Alsthom but this might take place in the longer term. Alsthom is expected to record a large loss for 1975 after a net 1974 loss of Fr1.3m.—Reuter.

HILL 50

Perth, Monday.—Hill 50 Consolidated has found uranium mineralisation with grades of up to nine pounds a ton at its Lake Barlee, Western Australia, joint venture. The extent of mineralisation has not yet been defined.

Emu Wine

Two ardent wooers refuse to give way

Just as the curtain was about to drop on Emu Wine, the leading players found themselves going into a surprise encore yesterday.

And after Monday night's 182½p a share bid for the company from private Australian wine group, Thomas Hardy, the stage could be occupied for some time yet.

Only hours before the arrival of the Hardy bid the Emu board had recommended shareholders to accept a revised offer of 170p from Western Australian Worsted and Woollen Mills. That followed news that a third suitor, Inchcape, had withdrawn from the scene.

But after playing the seemingly eager bride, the Emu board coyly retired from view yesterday leaving its two remaining suitors in a state of anxiety.

Last night, Emu was telling its shareholders to take no action on either bid before the board contacted them and that this would probably not be before next week.

The battle for Emu, a UK-based wine-making group with most of its assets in Australian vineyards, began in January with a 142p a share bid from Western Australian, through a subsidiary Bell Bros. At that stage it had already built up a 32.5 per cent stake.

This bid, valuing the company at £2.13m did not compare particularly well with an end 1974 assets valuation of £3.43m—£900,000 of it in liquid form in the United Kingdom, and the board was aware of other potential suitors.

Inchcape was not slow in coming forward. After a series of secret talks it put in a bid at 170p which was promptly agreed by the board. But Western Australian quickly equalled that figure.

Thomas Hardy's offer is subject to a 90 per cent acceptance with the added rider that the group can decide what action to take if over 50 per cent acceptance is received.

However Western Australian is fairly confident that the opposition wants 90 per cent and that their 32.5 per cent stake represents the trump card. If this is the case Western Australian might be expected to equal the new offer with high hopes of winning.

Richard Allen

Staflex raising £1.3m by rights after peak year

By Tony May

Staflex International, is raising £1.34m by a two-for-seven rights issue. The £3.5m shares will be offered at 38p a share against 54p in the market.

After expenses, the proceeds should be £1.27m. The money will be used to reduce borrowings, and strengthen the capital base.

The interlinings and clothing equipment group estimates that 1975 pre-tax profits rose from £1.89m to a record £1.95m. The dividend is to go up from 3.3p gross to 4.46p, with the Treasury's blessing.

Pre-tax profits are given before deducting £585,000 for exceptional items, against £199,000. They represent half the cost of moving the manufacturing processes to new premises in the UK and Netherlands. It is planned to write off the remaining costs as extraordinary items in equal instalments over the next four years.

CARRINGTON VIYELLA

In general, board of Carrington Viyella (controlled by ICI), is not expecting an upturn in the United Kingdom economy until the second half of 1976, with overseas improvement somewhat earlier. When improvement becomes a reality, the board is confident of the group's ability to "improve its performance substantially".

TDG gives 1 for 10 as earnings hold up

By Ashley Druker

The pre-tax profits of Transport Development Group were one fifth down in the first half of last year but 1975 as a whole saw them only one tenth down. Times were hard for its international operations in road haulage, storage, exhibitions and engineering in Britain, Australia and Europe.

On turnover up from £119.34m to £129.35m, pre-tax profits (down from £7.02m to £5.6m in the first half year) were £12.12m compared with £13.35m. Net profits were £6.47m against £7.2m. These were struck before an extraordinary gain of £987,000 from the sale of properties and currency conversion against an extraordinary loss of £934,000. Excluding the items earnings a share came out at 5.29p compared with 5.89p. The total dividend rises from 4.07p gross to 4.39p.

The board says that on the mainland of Europe, profits are improving. In Australia the return of business confidence, after the recent change of Government, is noticeable. But in Britain, there are still few signs of revival, and an increase in half-time profits this year is thought unlikely. Even so, the proposed one for 10 scrip issue helped the shares to rise a few pence.

Weyburn's sunny horizon

Quickly responding to encouraging news of Weyburn Engineering's opening quarter to January 31, the shares, up 10p on Monday, jumped another 45p to 580p yesterday.

Mr P. R. Royston, chairman, reported a "highly satisfactory" start, at the annual meeting. He added that first quarter results were again a record. All factories are busy and new plant will soon come on stream. The new acquisition at Tonbridge has been fully integrated.

The chairman is confident that results at Tonbridge will exceed expectations.

The acquisition of American group Camshaft Specialties will be completed by the end of the month. This newcomer opens up a "vast new market" for Weyburn products to be manufactured on both sides of the Atlantic. Plans are in hand to carry out an aggressive sales campaign in both North and South America.

£22,000 return per year for an investment of £8,600

Microfilm pays great dividends

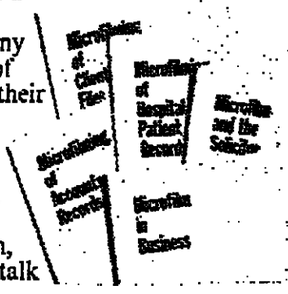
It's a surprising fact that one of the soundest financial investments can be a microfilm information retrieval system.

For instance, one cosmetic company installed a Bell & Howell microfilm system that paid for itself in seven months, saving them an incredible £22,000 every year. The system cost £8,600 and now handles their entire Sales Ledger records.

Then there is the major oil company that can retrieve and produce a copy of any one of 3½ million documents in a staggering 30 seconds.

Or the food company that saved 1,000 sq. ft. of prime office space with their Bell & Howell system. They also saved the cost of purchasing 200 new 4-drawer filing cabinets.

If you are thinking of investing in microfilm, pick up the 'phone and talk to Bell & Howell. Or fill in the coupon and we'll send you a booklet that explains how microfilm can save time, space and money in your business.



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BELL & HOWELL

T3/76

"Work Performed and Profit at Record Levels"

Profits exceed £7 million

Work performed by the company rose to the record level of £144 million in 1975, although inflation accounted for a proportion of the rise. Profits were also at a record level, exceeding £7 million for the first time, and would have been higher but for losses on two major civil engineering contracts in the United Kingdom and heavy start up costs on certain overseas contracts. In this context I believe we have had a good year.

The results in the United Kingdom were significantly affected by the weather. In the early part of the year we had a wet, miserable winter and spring, but the wonderful summer and autumn more than made up for this.

Our liquidity, which has stood us in such good stead through difficult times, improved still further during the year and cash in hand is at a record level.

Our work load at home and overseas is satisfactory and I am reasonably confident about 1975/76. We have an excellent case for recovering at least a substantial part of the losses on contracts referred to above. Further ahead there must be some doubts about the availability of work in Britain and the price at which it can be obtained. With this in view we are making good progress with the development of our overseas activities, although the difficulties in developing rapidly internationally, even for a company such as our own that is well experienced in overseas work, should not be underestimated.

Sir Alfred McAlpine & Son (Northern) Limited

The company had a good year and the forward order position is sound, particularly with the award after the year end of the largest civil engineering contract ever let in Britain, the Dinorwic hydro electric pumped storage scheme. This contract, valued at £60 million at January 1975 prices, will take four to five years to complete and contains an inflation clause which will give us some protection and mean that the final contract figure will be considerably higher.

Sir Alfred McAlpine & Son (Southern) Limited

The company also had a good year and has a sound order book although the Midlands have recently been particularly affected by the recession and lack of new industrial development. It is to be hoped that the resultant shortage of industrial orders will not last for too long a period.

Sir Alfred McAlpine (International) Limited

Considerable progress has been made towards promoting work in the Sudan, the United Arab Emirates, Saudi Arabia, and Nigeria. In Iran design work on the Tehran-Tabriz railway project is proceeding, and though we have no stake in the design it is anticipated that we will share in the construction work when it starts. The award after the year end of the first stage of the Kenana Sugar contract, an earthworks contract valued at over £20 million, has given a boost to the company's activities and it is anticipated a number of further orders in the Middle East will be obtained during the current year.

Future Prospects

Whilst our forward workload is fractionally below the equivalent at this time last year in real terms it should present no problem for the coming year. I have already referred to the necessity to increase workload overseas as a cushion against the wide fluctuations which successive Governments give to public work at home. Whilst nothing in the construction industry is wholly predictable I shall be very disappointed if we do not make further progress with profits in the current year, which has started satisfactorily. Generally the company has made very good progress and should certainly continue to do so in the immediate future.

My confidence is enhanced by the capability of our staff and workforce, who continue to produce excellent results under very difficult circumstances and I should very much like to thank them all for their efforts.

A. J. McAlpine, Chairman.

CONSOLIDATED PROFIT AND LOSS ACCOUNT
for the year ended 31st October 1975

	1975 £	1974 £
Turnover	144,321,000	98,272,000
Profit before taxation and extraordinary items	7,014,118	5,231,612
Taxation	3,666,797	2,515,510
Profit before extraordinary items	3,347,321	2,716,102
Extraordinary items	147,046	(785,811)
Minority interests	11,738	30,384
Profit attributable to shareholders	3,506,097	1,960,675
Dividends	482,404	444,922
Undistributed profit	3,023,693	1,515,753

MARCHWIEL HOLDINGS LIMITED

Controlling Sir Alfred McAlpine & Son Limited

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NCIAL NEWS

r Int raise earnings ord level of $28.5m

r E. Heller Inter- corporation (the rent of Britain's actors) achieved a come from its fin- king operations for ended December, ncreased 6.1 per n, or $2.52 a share. me basis fourth ings rose 2.6 per n, a new high, or are. ngs, including net its discontinuing g operations, rose

erseas

to a record $30.4m, share, with fourth ings, on the same 13.5 per cent to 4m, or 73 cents a

lin A. Cole, chair- r income from fin- nking was $28.5m with $26.8m for preferred dividends, are earnings from banking during the were $2.52 a share el).

r foresees covery

ommenting on the 1976 in its annual "On the whole it economic recovery nparatively modest some time yet the not look forward the high levels of chieved in 1973 and

pany added that pulp and paper ould improve "but lly and return to full operating rates in that sector is expected to be slow". The outlook for the construction materials division is "optimistic" and the chemicals division expects sales "will increase by 10 per cent and earnings will approximate the 1975 level".—AP-Dow Jones.

Wardley reports all round progress

Wardly of Hongkong's consolidated attributable 1975 net profit was $HK25.4m ($HK0.53m). The dividend paid to parent company, Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corp, was $HK20m.

Mr Michael Sandberg, chairman, says in the annual report that 1975 was a year of sustained progress and expansion and all departments made a significant contribution to earnings.—Reuter.

South British Insurance

Consolidated net profit for the South British Insurance Co was $NZ2.6m for half year to end-December, against loss of $NZ1.1m in previous six-month period to February 28. Premium income was $NZ92.1m ($NZ58.6m).

The directors say that the accounts reflect changes in the New Zealand currency value of overseas transactions.—Reuter.

A & P hopes for profit

Great Atlantic and Pacific Tea states that it expects fourth quarter operating earnings to be "slightly in the black" before adjustments for store closings. Sales, it said, for the 14-week period ended February were $1.870m, up from $1.704m in last year's 13-week fourth quarter.

A and P hopes to return to industry profit levels in five years, but this cannot be expected in fiscal 1976.—Reuter.

Weir takes in remainder of valve venture

Weir Group, with interests in engineering, foundries, aircraft equipment and water plant, has completed a deal in Long Beach, California. It has bought the 49 per cent holding in Weir-Pacific Valves, of Glasgow, formerly owned by Pacific Valves Inc, of Long Beach. Weir already held 51 per cent of the shares.

Weir-Pacific Valves is a major international supplier of pumps, steel castings, sea-water desalination plant, aircraft equipment and other products.

At the same time, Weir reached a long-term agreement with Mark Controls Corporation, the parent of Pacific Valves. Under this deal, Weir-Pacific Valves will manufacture and supply additional important ranges of valves in association with Pacific-Valves Inc.

New sugar trader for Jardine, Gill & Duffus

Jardine Matheson and the Gill and Duffus Group are forming two companies which they will jointly own and which will operate internationally as traders in sugar. The proposed names for the companies are Jardine Gill Guntermann Zucker-Handelsgellschaft, which will be in West Germany, and Jardine Gill and Duffus in New York.

The managing director of Jardine Gill in West Germany will be Mr K. H. Guntermann and the head of Jardine Gill Inc will be Mr Niels Gammeltoft.

It is planned to set up a similar operation in London. With the expansion of the existing sugar trading activities in Hongkong, the Jardine, Gill and Duffus Group will have a presence in the main sugar trading areas of the world.

Wagon Finance cool

In his annual statement, Mr S. M. de Bartolome, chairman of Wagon Finance, says he expects a "modest" increase in the amount of new business finance. But a big upturn must await a more buoyant economy, which he does not foresee this year.

He adds that barring any major surprises, interest rates should show some "moderation". With borrowings of over £20m, this would have a favourable short-term impact on group profits. Last year pre-tax profits rose from £530,000 to £1.4m, on an unchanged turnover of £7.6m.

Tilley again in loss

Tilley Lamp, now at the end of a bid, again reports a loss. For the year to December 27 the pre-tax deficit came to £53,000 compared with a loss of £76,000. After extraordinary items of £13,000 against £3,000, the net loss amounted to £11,000 against £34,000. Turnover dropped from £758,000 to £492,000.

The bid of 50p a share comes from Mr R. L. Hersov, who holds 29.3 per cent of the equity.

Trafalgar loan stock

Now that the stock has matured, the Trustees of the 9½ per cent Loan stock have informed Trafalgar House Investments that they intend to implement their rights to subscribe for ordinary shares in Trafalgar, on behalf of holders of unexercised subscription rights outstanding at March 5. The new shares in Trafalgar will be sold and the net premium over the cost of subscription will be distributed pro rata to the stock holders.

I. T. Guernsey higher

A recovery in revenue from £90,000 to £115,000 after tax in the six months to last December took the Investment Trust of Guernsey group up from £201,000 to £223,000 in 1975. Earnings a share were 4.8p, against 4.3p and the net asset value a share 169p, against 101p. The dividend rises from 7.07p gross to 8.08p.

Lonsdale warning

In his annual report, Mr Norman Ramseyer, chairman of Lonsdale Universal, the commercial stationery, packaging, retailing and technical services group, sees encouraging signs of an increase in general business activity, but he has some reservations on whether this improvement will absorb higher operating costs.

It is likely that the interim figures for the current year will be lower than the record first half profits of last year.

QUEBEC TO RAISE $100m
The Province of Quebec is raising $100m (US) on Eurobond market through a $50m five-year note issue with an expected coupon of 8¼ per cent, and a $50m eight-year bond issue with an anticipated coupon of nine per cent.

MERCHANTS TRUST
Pre-tax revenue for year to January 31, £1.72m (£1.56m). Total payment 3p gross (2.73p).

PIRELLI
Milan.—Proposed 1975 dividend 110 lire (95). Pre-tax profit for year about 1,783m lire (1,882m lire). Company is a [illegible] holding concern within Pirelli Group but outside Pirelli-Dunlop union.—Reuter.

T:S:L

Manufacturers of vitreous silica and oxide ceramics

Sir JOHN PAGET, Bart., reports:

* Record turnover and profit before tax for the year to 31 October 1975.
* Dividend at the maximum permitted.
* Supported by sound finances, the company is in a position to increase its market penetration in overseas territories and ensure its ability to meet the increased demands of its traditional markets, both at home and abroad, as and when the expected longer term recovery takes place.

THE YEAR IN BRIEF

	1974-75 £'000	1973-74 £'000
Turnover	6,928	5,819
Profit before tax	951	901
Taxation	513	448
Earnings per 25p Ordinary Share	8.24p	8.52p
Dividend per share, net	2.513p	2.355p
Return on capital employed	19.69%	22.97%

For a full copy of the Annual Report, please write to the Secretary, Thermal Syndicate Ltd., Neptune Road, Wallsend, Tyne & Wear, NE28 6DG.

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e year's group profit
to be in line with the
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ION ENGINEERING
for 1975, £798,000
re-tax profit, £132,000
Total payment, 5.5p

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n and Son Holdings
ridge will no longer proceed. The advisers to Dixon and Bank Bridge are now in talks on the settlement of the debt.

BAINBRIDGE BROS
The financial year of Bainbridge Bros (Engineers) is to be altered to run from April 1 to March 31. Current year is being extended by one month to March 31, 1976.

BROWN BOVERI KENT
Brown Boveri Kent have received notification, following recent rights issue, that BBC Brown, Boveri and Co's interest in ordinary shares of this company has increased by 5,071,233 to a total of 22,094,357 (50.8 per cent).

SUTTON DISTRICT WATER
Result of offer for sale by tender of £5m 8 per cent redeemable preference stock 1981 as follows: Total amount of stock applied for £6.68m. Highest price offered was £100.10 per cent. The lowest price accepted was £99.51 per cent. Average price obtained was £99.67 per cent.

ELECTRA INV TRUST
Electra Investment Trust has been notified by both Cable Trust and Globe Investment Trust that they are each interested in £4,550,600 of company's ordinary stock (37.22 per cent in each case of such stock in issue).

ALLIANCE INVESTMENT CO.
Alliance has arranged to borrow $500,000 for one year from Morgan Guaranty Trust of New York to finance overseas portfolio investment.

OGILVY & MATHER INTERNATIONAL INC.
Total dividend for 1975, $1.00, against 85.5 cents. Gross income, $98.22m (about £49m), against $87.8m. Pre-tax profit, $13.04m ($12.62m).

BENDIX CORP
Southfield, Mich.—Bendix Corp. is to complete divestiture of Facet Enterprises by distributing one share of Facet stock for each five shares of Bendix held.—Reuter.

MIDLAND INDUSTRIES
At the annual meeting, Mr E. C. Marsland, chairman, said: "The first five months of this year have progressed as we expected: we are showing improved profits. I have no doubt that the results for the current year will be satisfactory and that group will continue to prosper."

ements for February

the London Clearing Banks and their banking subsidiaries d Wales, the Channel Islands, and the Isle of Man made / 18 are summarized in the table below:

£ millions

	Total	Change on Month	Barclays	Lloyds	Midland	National Westminster	Williams & Glyn's
	39.707	+ 1	10.629	7.537	7.787	12.304	1.450
ns	Eng 954	— 52	308	168	227	230	21
tot	8.451	+ 46	2.002	2.088	1.379	2.683	302
	9.377	+315	1.470	1.388	1.097	3.172	250
	1.924	— 26	440	287	430	820	37
s	664	+224	208	100	133	204	19
ent							
	1.853	— 89	457	413	387	568	28
	20.751	—125	5.998	3.190	4.176	6.455	852
(%)	13.7	-0.5	13.7	11.9	14.1	13.9	13.5

appointments

n new members for nal industrial boards

of new appointments Industrial Develop- have been made as D. J. Grant and Mr son; Northern: Mr , Mr T. McDonald, l Smith; Yorkshire de: Mr R. G. Par- P. E. Neale; South R. A. Cookson, a Northern Industrial Board, has become ccession to Mr J. B. ho has resigned to h Steel Corporation. Hamilton, chairman hief of Times News- ir John Read, chair- EMI Group, have tish Overseas Trade

Bronnger has been ational marketing utomotive Products. Moore has been ector and general 's Leamington auto- n. Mr L. B. Rutter facturing director of dth, formerly United s director of Rank tional, has become sales and marketing director of Colston Appliances.

Mr P. H. Harrison and Mr G. L. Storr have joined the board of Feedex.

Mr P. R. A. Bainbridge and Mr William Campbell have joined the board of Associated Container Transportation Services.

Mr M. E. Turner, secretary of Wellman Mechanical Engineering, becomes additionally financial director.

Mr N. McCann is to be deputy managing director of Alfred Clough. Mr M. J. Richards becomes group comptroller.

Mr Peter Bryan has become editorial director of IPC Consumer Industries Press.

Mr Peter Crippen has been made an executive director of Nevill Long (Eastern).

Mr Lawrence Marshall has joined the board of management of Bonser Engineering.

Mr David Larby has become a director of FTS (Great Britain).

Mr R. J. Holland has resigned from the World Health Organization to join the board of Ward, Ashcroft and Parkman.

UB United Biscuits

1975 Preliminary Figures and Extracts from the Statement by the Chairman, Mr Hector Laing

I am delighted to be able to report that 1975 was a most successful year both in terms of sales achievement and profit increase.

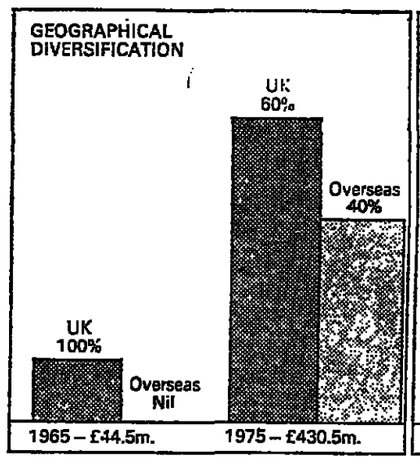
While a major part of the increases came from the United States, as the following table shows our U.K. based operations also had a satisfactory year.

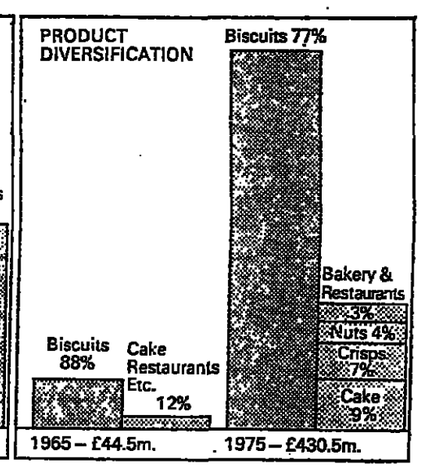
Results for the year (subject to final audit)		1975 £m	1974 £m	Difference £m	Difference %
Sales	U.K. (incl. export)	260.2	210.7	+49.5	+23.5
	Overseas	170.3	115.8	+54.5	+47.1
	Total	430.5	326.5	+104.0	+31.8
Trading Profit	U.K.(incl. expert)	18.4	15.4	+3.0	+19.5
	Overseas	7.2	3.9	+3.3	+84.6
	Total	25.6	19.3	+6.3	+32.6
Exceptional Credits		0.4	—	+0.4	—
Interest		3.7	5.5	−1.8	−32.7
Net Profit before Tax		22.3	13.8	+8.5	+61.6

Our excellent trading performance, together with the proceeds of our Rights Issue and the sale of some of our activities in Europe to which I referred in my last report, have substantially strengthened our balance sheet and reduced our interest charges significantly.

Sales Growth and Diversification by Products and Markets

In trading terms we have not only increased our sales dramatically from £44.5m in 1965 to £430.5m in 1975 but over the same period we have substantially improved the balance of our business as illustrated by the following charts.





In reaching our present position we have succeeded in achieving the essential goals we set in our strategic plan. Where we have adhered to our strategic principles, whether applied to acquisition or to quality of product or management, we have been successful. We have failed when we have ignored or compromised those principles. That is the most important lesson of these ten years.

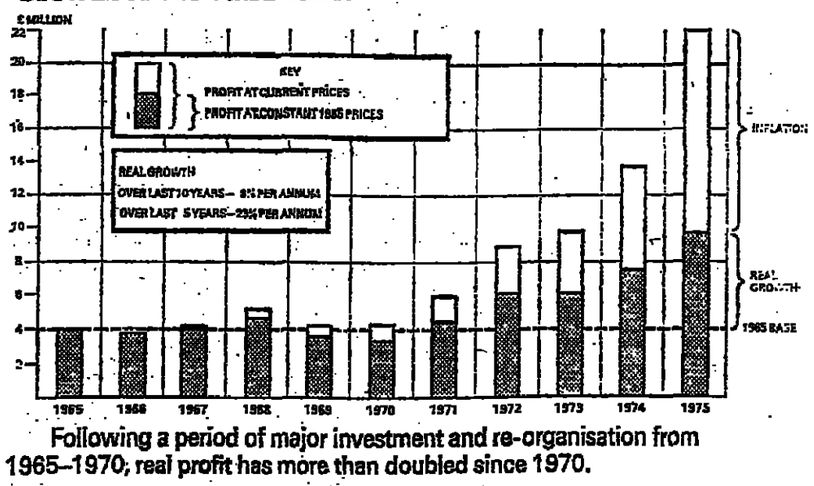
The Importance of Good Relationships

Part of our philosophy has been to recognise that while profit is vital it is not an end in itself. In reaching our objectives I believe we have kept the respect and goodwill of consumers, our suppliers, our distributors and of our employees and pensioners.

A decade of progress

In 1965 we were a relatively small loosely-knit group of family companies. In the subsequent ten years we have become the second largest biscuit manufacturing group in the world. Our principal products are biscuits, crisps, cakes, nuts and snack products which are manufactured in the U.K., U.S.A., Japan and Europe. They are exported to 92 countries.

Growth of Pre-Tax Profits



Following a period of major investment and re-organisation from 1965–1970, real profit has more than doubled since 1970.

Investment

Together with this year's Annual Report and Accounts I will be sending out a document based on a booklet entitled "Job Security" which has been used as a briefing document in all our factories and throughout the business generally during 1975. It sets out to demonstrate how, notwithstanding our increase in profits, inflation and price controls have adversely affected our ability to invest in the U.K.

Investment and return on that investment are the only sure foundation for success for a company or nation. It is vitally important that this fact should be more widely appreciated and understood. Jobs depend on investment.

Thanks to Staff

For a company to increase its profits five-fold in five years requires a very high degree of teamwork throughout the business. Management must take the right strategic decisions, control costs, monitor performance and keep the workforce informed so that their interest and co-operation are sustained, and the entire staff must be committed to the success of the enterprise.

I would like to pay tribute to everyone in the company all over the world for their contributions to this year's outstanding success. Without their dedication and hard work it could not have been done.

The Future

Our Budget for 1976 shows another increase in profits and I believe this to be realistic. We have had a very good start to the year. Past trends augur well for the future and I look forward to another ten years of continuing progress.

The Annual Report and Accounts will be posted to shareholders on 14th April 1976.

United Biscuits (Holdings) Limited

Syon Lane, Isleworth, Middlesex TW7 5NN

McVITIES · CRAWFORDS · MACFARLANE LANG · MACDONALDS · K.P. · CARRS

If you wish to receive a copy of the Report and Accounts, but are not a shareholder, please complete this coupon.
To the Registrars, The Royal Bank of Scotland Limited, 31 St. Andrew Square, Edinburgh EH2 2AB.
Please send me a copy of the 1975 Annual Report and Accounts on publication.
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MARKET REPORTS

Commodities

Tin sharply up again: copper continues climb

Following a $M125 rise in the Penang price, tin prices again went sharply ahead on the London market yesterday. The market was subject to some profit taking prompted by the quieter currency market. Nevertheless standard cash put on £30.50 to £3,545.50 and three months went £29 ahead to £3,586.50. Rises in high grade were £30 for cash and £45 for three months.

Copper continued its advance, putting on between £3.25 and £4.375.

COPPER.—Afternoon.—Cash wire bars, £608.50-09 a metric ton; three months, £636.50-37. Sales, 7,700 tons. Cash cathodes, £599-99.50; three months, £627-27.50. Sales, 350 tons. Morning.—Cash wire bars, £601-02; three months, £629.50-30.00. Settlement, £602. Sales, 5,500 tons. Cash cathodes, £592-92.50; three months, £620-21. Settlement, £592.50. Sales, 425 tons.

SILVER was about 3p up on all three LME positions.—Bullion market (fixing levels).—Spot, 217p a troy ounce (United States cents equivalent, 421.8); three months, 222p (428.0c); six months, 227p (434.3c); one-year, 236p (447.6c). London Metal Exchange.—Afternoon.—Cash, 221-21.5p; three months, 226.1-26.2p; seven months, 232.8-33.5p. Sales, 135 lots of 10,000 troy ounces each. Morning.—Cash, 217-17.5p; three months, 222-22.5p; seven months, 228.8-29.5p. Settlement, 217.5p. Sales, 80 lots.

TIN.—Afternoon.—Standard cash, £3,530-50 a metric ton; three months, £3,585-88. Sales, 450 tons (about half carries). High grade, cash, £3,575-85; three months, £3,620-40. Sales, nil. Morning.—Standard cash, £3,520-25; three months, £3,565-68. Settlement, £3,525. Sales, 805 tons (mainly carries). High grade, cash, £3,555-65; three months, £3,600-£3,620. Settlement, £3,565. Sales, 20 tons (all carries). Singapore tin ex-works, $M 1,064 a picul.

LEAD.—Afternoon.—Cash, £191.50-93.50 a metric ton; three months, £201-01.25. Sales, 450 tons. Morning.—Cash, £193.50-94.50; three months, £200-200.50. Settlement, £194.50. Sales, 4,400 tons (mainly carries).

ZINC.—Afternoon.—Cash, £367-67.50 a metric ton; three months, £375.50-74. Sales, 1,550 tons. Morning.—Cash, £359.50-60.50; three months, £370.50-71.00. Settlement, £360.50. Sales, 1,650 tons. Producers' price, $775 a metric ton. All afternoon metal prices are unofficial.

PLATINUM was unchanged at £70.55 ($137) a troy ounce.

RUBBER was steady. April, 42.60-42.90p per kilo; May, 42.80-43.25p; April-June, 42.80-43.15p; July-Sept, 44.95-45.10p; Oct-Dec, 46.80-46.85p; Jan-March, 47.90-48p; April-June, 49.49.10; July-Sept, 49.50-50p; Oct-Dec, 50.10-51. Sales, one lot at 5 tonnes and 310 at 15 tonnes including 9 options.

RUBBER PHYSICALS were slightly easier.—Spot, 40.25-40.25. Cifs: April, 40.50-41.00; May, 41.50-42.00.

COFFEE.—Robusta futures were steady, recovering from some dips in morning trade.

ROBUSTAS.—March, £865-868 per metric ton; May, £881-882; July, £894-895; Sept, £907-908; Nov, £917-918; Jan, £926-927; March, £931-932. Sales: 1,634 lots, including 138 options.

ARABICAS were dull. April, $108.50-09.50 per 50 kilos; June, $108.00-11.50; Aug, $109.40-10.00; Oct, $109.40-10.50; Dec, $109.50-11; Feb, $109.50-11; April, $109.50-11.50. Sales, 8 lots.

COCOA futures were under pressure from local selling and long liquidation. March, £777-77.50 per metric ton; May, £760.50-61.0; July, £744-44.50; Sept, £722-23; Dec, £701-01.50; March, £690-92; May, £682-85. Sales, 1,417 lots including two options. ICO prices: daily, 65.06c; 15 day average, 65.73c; 22-day average, 64.52c (US cents per lb).

SUGAR futures were £3.50 to £4.225 easier. London daily prices were "raws" £185 (up £2) and "whites" £195 (unchanged). May, £183.50-83.50 per long ton; Aug, £193.50-83.75; Oct, £181-83.50; Dec, £181.10-81.25; March, £180.50-81.00; May, £180.50-80.60; Aug, £179.50-80. Sales, 5,755 lots. ISA prices: Daily, 15.18c; 17-day average, 15.92c.

SOYABEAN MEAL was steady.—April, £88-88.70 per metric ton; June, £89.60-89.70; Aug, £90.60-90.70; Oct, £91.60-91.70; Dec, £92.50-92.70; Feb, £93.50-93.70; April, £94.50-94.60. Sales, 50 lots.

GREASY wool futures were steady.—March, 180-85p per kilo; May, 187-88p; July, 197-99p; Oct, 207-08p; Dec, 217-18p; March, 222-25p; May, 224-32p. Sales, 38 lots.

JUTE was quiet.—Bangladesh white "C" grade, March-April, £156.50 per long ton. "D" grade, March-April, £137.50. Calcutta was quiet.—Indian spot, Rs500 per bale of 400lb. Dundee Daisee, spot, Rs475.

GRAIN (The Baltic).—**WHEAT**.—United States dark northern spring No 2, 14 per cent: April-May, £95.50. May-June, £95.10 direct Tilbury. Trans-shipment east coast all unquoted.

MAIZE.—No 3 yellow American-French: March, £70; April, £70.50 trans-shipment east coast quoted.

BARLEY.—EEC feed: early March, £60.75; late March, £60.95; April, £70.50 east coast quoted. All per long ton cif United Kingdom unless stated.

London Grain Futures Market (Gafta). EEC origin.—BARLEY was uncertain: March, £65.50; May, £67.20; Sept, £65.25; Nov, £67.90; Jan, £69.0. Sales, 47 lots. WHEAT was uncertain: March, £67.35; May, £69.15; Sept, £65.90; Nov, £67.85; Jan, £69.70. Sales, 133 lots. Sept, Nov, etc, forwards are quoted per tonne; other positions are still per long ton.

Home-Grown Cereal Authority's location ex-farm spot prices.

	Soft milling WHEAT	Feed WHEAT	Feed BARLEY
Humberside	—	—	£64.70
Gloucester	£66	£64.75	£65.40

The United Kingdom monetary coefficient for all cereals with the exception of wheat and wheat flour for the week beginning Monday, March 15 (based on HGCA calculations) is expected to increase to 1.035.

MEAT COMMISSION: Average fatstock prices at representative markets on March 9: UK: Cattle, £21.29 per live cwt (+0.91). Sheep, 36.8p per lb EDCW (+3.1). Pigs, 34.7p per sc LW (+0.04). England and Wales: Cattle numbers down 4.6 per cent, average price £21.34 (+0.41). Sheep numbers up 18.5 per cent, average price 47.0p (+2.0). Pig numbers down 11.1 per cent, average price, £4.75 (+0.04). Scotland: Cattle numbers up 2.0 per cent, average price £21.06 (+0.90). Sheep numbers down 37.1 per cent, average price 44.0p (+1.4). Pig numbers up 13.2 per cent, average price, £4.87 (—0.05).

EGGS (The London Egg Exchange).—In home-produced standards and mediums continue to enjoy a good demand with supply fully taken up. Some improvement appears to have taken place in the sales of large, where a tidier situation exists. In imported the weakness in the pound is restricting trade from the Continent. Home-produced market prices (in £, based on trading packer, first-hand):

White	Wed Thurs Fri	Mon Tues
Large	£3.20-£3.30	£3.20-£3.30
Standard	£3.10-£3.20	£3.10-£3.20
Medium	£3.05-£3.10	£3.05-£3.10
Small	£2.70-£2.80	£2.70-£2.80
Brown		
Large	£3.30-£3.35	£3.25-£3.35
Standard	£3.20-£3.30	£3.20-£3.30
Imported prices (in £)	Current Arrivals (March 8-15)	
Dutch 6	£2.90-£3.07	

All prices quoted are for bulk delivery in Keyes trays. The above range is a guide to general market conditions and is dependent upon location, quantity and whether delivered or not.

Bank Base Rates

Barclays Bank	9½%
First London Secs	9½%
C. Hoare & Co ..	*9½%
Lloyds Bank	9½%
Midland Bank	9½%
Nat Westminster ..	9½%
Rossminster ACC's	9½%
Shenley Trust	11½%
Williams & Glyn's	9½%

* 7-day deposits on sums of £10,000 and under, 5½%, up to £25,000, 6¼%, over £25,000, 6¾%.

M. J. H. NIGHTINGALE & CO LIMITED
62-63 Threadneedle Street, London EC2R 8HP Tel: 01-638 8651

1975-76 High	Low	Company	Last Price	Ch'ge	Gross Div (p)	Yld %	P/E
46	25	Armitage & Rhodes	34	+1	3.0	8.8	9.0
104	94	Deborah Services	104	—	7.5	7.2	5.5
150	115	Henry Sykes	145	—	4.9	3.4	9.7
36	18	Twinlock Ord	22	—	0.9	4.2	5.4
67	45	Twinlock 12% ULS	64	—	12.0	18.8	—
63	48	Unilock Holdings	60	—	4.5	7.5	11.6

MIDLAND INDUSTRIES

Record Profits
* Group Sales increased 32.2% to £12.6m
* Group Profits pretax increased by 47.5% to £922.000.
* Total Dividends 24.75% (gross)

Foundry Division
Ironfounding has been the strength behind the progress of the Group, with significant improvements in sales and profitability. We are continuing to invest in improved plant and machinery in this sector and view the future with confidence.

Engineering Division
This division has failed to live up to the promise of the previous year due to the depressed state of the Agricultural Machinery market. The operation of the loss-making Belgian subsidiary has now ceased completely.

However, Bettles Ltd and the Heating and Process Control Division have both made good contributions after many years of poor trading, whilst the Boston Division has also made a sound contribution. Overall, a substantially improved performance by this sector is anticipated in the current year.

Despite the present climate of "doom and gloom", we are confident of further improving the Group's performance due to our policy of investing in improved manufacturing facilities. E. C. Marsland, Chairman.

Heath Town Works, Wolverhampton WV10 0QD

RIVER AND MERCANTILE TRUST LIMITED

Salient points from Report and Accounts to 31st December, 1975

	1975	1974
Gross Revenue	£1,607,674	£1,601,542
Earned per share	7.12p	7.32p
Dividend per share (net)	6.25p	6.00p
Group Valuation of Investments	£23,863,198	£12,142,873
Net Asset Value	178p	77p

Since 31st December, 1975 the £500,000 8½% Debenture Stock of the subsidiary company was exchanged for a like amount of 8½% Debenture Stock of the Parent Company, the assets of the subsidiary were thereafter transferred to the Parent Company and the subsidiary, Andermor Investment Trust, placed into Members Voluntary Liquidation.

Chairman is satisfied that income can be adequately maintained and in view of past record of progress Company can look forward to its future as an Investment Trust with confidence.

Foreign Exchange

The depreciation rate indicator for sterling against 10 currencies climbed to a record 33.2 per cent yesterday, from 33.1 per cent on Monday. But trading on the foreign exchanges was calmer than recently.

Sterling was moderately lower against the dollar at the close, at $1.9415, down 10 points. Further losses by sterling against other major currencies resulted in a fresh deterioration in the trade-weighted depreciation indicator.

The Bank of England was believed to have taken a much less active role in steadying sterling, after supporting the unit on Monday with operations of up to an estimated $150m.

The pound briefly dropped to around $1.9380 during the afternoon and may have received the bulk of yesterday's official intervention at that point, dealers said.

Late London trading was slightly unsettled by a Lagos radio report that Nigeria's Central Bank Governor, Mr Ciroma, had said that Nigerian foreign exchange reserves, which used to be predominantly in sterling, had been redistributed into various convertible currencies.

Gold rose 25 cents an ounce, to $133.25.

Spot Position of Sterling

	Market rates (day's range) March 9	Market rates (close) March 9
New York	$1.9375-9430	$1.9410-9420
Montreal	$1.9075-9135	$1.9120-9130
Amsterdam	5.20-25fl	5.20½-21½fl
Brussels	76.30-90f	76.40-60f
Copenhagen	11.90-12.05k	11.89¾-12.00¾k
Frankfurt	4.96-5.01m	4.99½-00½m
Lisbon	54.30-90e	54.55-75e
Madrid	129.50-130.30p	129.70-90p
Milan	1545-60lr	1547-50lr
Oslo	10.74-81k	10.75½-76½k
Paris	8.77-84f	8.78½-79½f
Stockholm	8.53-60k	8.53½-54½k
Tokyo	582-92y	584-87y
Vienna	35.70-36.20sch	35.75-85sch
Zurich	5.00-05f	5.00½-01½f

Effective depreciation since Dec 21, 1971 8.1 to 33.2 per cent.

Forward Levels

	1 month	3 months
New York	.75-.65c prem	1.85-1.75c prem
Montreal	par-.10c disc	.25-.35c disc
Amsterdam	3¼-2¼c prem	8¼-7¼c prem
Brussels	20c prem-par	40-20c prem
Copenhagen	5-1ore prem	5¾-3¾ore prem
Frankfurt	3-2pf prem	7¼-6¼pf prem
Lisbon	80-180c disc	150-300c disc
Madrid	15c prem-15c disc	20c prem-40c disc
Milan	4-6lr disc	14-17lr disc
Oslo	3¾-1¾ore prem	10¾-8¾ore prem
Paris	4-6c disc	8-10c disc
Stockholm	2¾-1¾ore prem	6¾-4¾ore prem
Vienna	30-05gro prem	60-30gro prem
Zurich	3¾-2¾c prem	10¾-9¾c prem

Canadian dollar rate (against US dollar), $1.0155-58.

Eurodollar deposits (%) calls, 4½-5½; seven days, 4¾-5¾; one month, 5-5½; three months, 5¾-6, six months, 6¼-6¾.

Gold

Gold fixed: am, $132.80 (an ounce); pm, $132.80.

Krugerrand (per coin) $136.50-138.50 (£70.25-71.25) (domestic), $136-138 (£70-71) (international).

Sovereigns (old), $45.25-46.25 (£23.25-23.75) (new), $44.75-46.75 (£23-24) (international).

Recent Issues

	Closing price
Bowring C.T. 10% Cnv (£100)	£136
Electra Inv 25p Ord (87)	63p
GLC 13¾% 1993 (£100)	£99¾
LASMO 10p Unit (10)	168
Do 14% Ln 87-93 (£100)	£27¾
SCOT 10p Unit (10)	166
Do 14% Ln 81-93 (£100)	£27¾
Scot Met 9% Cnv 92-96 (100)	£18 prem
Treasury 9¾% A 1980 (£96)	£35¾ pd
Treasury 13¾% A 1993 (£95½)	£25¾

RIGHTS ISSUES	Latest date of renun	Closing price
Allen E Balfour (60)		13 prem-1
Braham Millar (28)	Apr 12	3½ prem-½
Concentric (29)	Apr 15	3½ prem-½
Crown House (21)	..	5½ prem-3
HAT Group (31)	Apr 8	10 prem+1
Hoffnung (85)	..	31 prem-1
Imp Metal Ind (41)	..	13½ prem
Lloyds Bank (210)	Apr 23	15 prem-2
Meyer M L (54)	Apr 2	16 prem+¼
Standard Chart Bk (335)	..	29 prem+1
Tecalemit (42)	Apr 2	7½ prem+1
Triplex Found (42)	Apr 14	16½ prem-1
Turner Newall (152)	Jun 11	14 prem-1
Ward T. W. (48)	May 12	3 prem-½
Wheway Watson (8)		3 prem

Issue price in parentheses. * Ex dividend. † Issued by tender. ‡ Nil paid. a £50 paid. b £10 paid.

Discount market

The discount houses experienced quietly comfortable conditions for much of yesterday's money market session. Early indications of a moderate credit surplus proved somewhat too optimistic, but credit supply and demand eventually came into balance and the authorities did not have to intervene.

The clearing banks were quickly seen to be in funds, and early rates of 8 per cent were soon giving way. Money kept flowing steadily throughout the morning, and 7 per cent ruled by midday. Near the end, an element of patchiness developed.

Money Market Rates

Bank of England Minimum Lending Rate 9¼% (Last changed 5/3/76)
Clearing Banks Base Rate 9½%

Discount Mkt Loans %: Overnight: Open 8 Close 7; Week Fixed: 8-8¼

Treasury Bills (Dis%)

Buying		Selling	
2 months	8⅛	2 months	8¼
3 months	8⅛	3 months	8⅛

Prime Bank Bills (Dis%) / Trades (Dis%)

2 months	8⅛-8¼	3 months	8¾
3 months	8⅛-8¼	4 months	8¾
4 months	8¼-8½	6 months	9¼
6 months	8¾-8½		

Local Authority Bonds

1 month	8¾-8½	7 months	9¼-9⅛
2 months	8¾-8½	8 months	9¼-9⅛
3 months	9⅛-8⅞	9 months	9½-9¼
4 months	9⅛-8⅞	10 months	9¾-9½
5 months	9⅛-8⅞	11 months	9¾-9½
6 months	9¼-9	12 months	10¼-9¾

Secondary Mkt. ECD Rates (%)

1 month	6⅞-6⅝	6 months	9⅛-8⅞
3 months	8¾-8½	12 months	9¾-9½

Local Authority Market (%)

2 days	8	3 months	8¾
7 days	8¼	6 months	9
1 month	8¼-8½	1 year	10¼

Interbank Market (%)

Overnight: Open 8¼-8 Close 5

1 week	8½-8¼	6 months	9¼-9
1 month	8¾-8½	9 months	9¾-9½
3 months	8⅞-8⅝	12 months	9¾-9½

First Class Finance Houses (Mkt. Rate %): 3 months 9¼; 6 months 9⅝

Finance House Base Rate 10%

Wall Street

New York, March 9.—Stocks showed a moderate gain on the New York stock exchange but at the close were retreating from a strong early advance.

The industrial average was ahead 4.96 to 993.70. At its best level of the session, it was ahead about 12 points to the vicinity of 1,001—where it held for much of the session before giving ground in late trading.

Advancing issues led decliners about 820 to about 700. Volume totalled 31,770,000 shares, compared with 25,060,000 yesterday.

Analysts said the stock market encountered heavy profit-taking around the 1,000 level as it had late last month around 995 in several unsuccessful attempts to break out across 1,000.

Brokers attributed early buying to a decline in Treasury Bill rates and a stable Federal funds rate with analysts looking for a slow increase in interest rates along with an expanding money supply.

Some analysts contended that when the stock market could absorb the profit-taking apparent around 1,000, it could break through on the near term to a close above 1,000.

Silver gains 2.8 cents

New York, March 9.—COMEX SILVER closed about midway of highs and lows, at gains of 1.80 to 2.80 cents on the day. March, 427.20c; May, 430.50c; July, 435.60c; Sept, 441.40c; Dec, 450.50c; Jan, 453.60c; March, 459.70c; May, 465.80c; July, 472.00c. Handy and Harman, $4.24 (previous, $4.25).

GOLD.—Futures closed mixed in moderate trading. The March contract closed up 30 cents from yesterday's settlement price at $133.60 on the Comex but was unchanged at $133.40 on the IMM. NY COMEX.—March, $133.60; April, $133.70; May, $133.70; June, $133.80; Aug, $134.80; Oct, $136.90; Dec, $137.00; Feb, $138.10; April, $139.30; June, $140.50. CHICAGO IMM.—March, $133.40; June, $133.60-133.70; Sept, $136.00-135.20; Dec, $137.00; March, $139.30; June, $141.20.

[illegible]

Stock	Mar 9	Mar 8
[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]

* Ex div. a Asked. c Ex distribution. h Bid. k Market Closed. n New Issue. p Stock Split. t Traded. y Unquoted.

Eurobond prices (midday indicators)

$ STRAIGHTS	Bid	Offer
AIDC 10¼ 1981 ..	103	105
Air France 9¼ 1982 ..	103¼	103¾
Airlease 8¾ 1988 ..	91¾	94¾
ARDB 9¾ 1980 ..	101¾	102¾
Ashland 8 1987 ..	94	95
Barclays Bank 9¼ 1982	100¾	101¾
BFCE 9 1982 ..	102	103
Broken Hill Prop 9¼ 1981 ..	103	104
British Steel Corp 8¾ 1989 ..	90	91
Burlington 7¾ 1987 ..	92¾	93¾
Carrier 8 1987 ..	92	93
CECA 8¾ 1982 ..	101	102
Chevron 7 1980 ..	99¾	101
Conoco 7 1980 ..	98¾	100
Conoco 8 1986 ..	98	99
Cons Food 7¾ 1991 ..	90¾	91¾
CSR 9¾ 1980 ..	101¾	102¾
Curacao Tokyo 8¾ 1988 ..	94¾	95¾
Curacao Tokyo 10¼ 1981 ..	102¾	103¾
Cutler Hammer 8 1987 ..	94	95
Dana 8 1987 ..	93¾	95¾
Denmark Kingdom 7¾ 1990 ..	87¾	88¾
DSM 9¼ 1980 ..	102¾	103¾
EIB 9 1980 ..	102¾	103¾
EIB 9¼ 1985 ..	103	104
Escom 9¼ 1980 ..	88	90
Escom 10¼ 1987 ..	99	99¾
Escom Floating Rate 1982 ..	99¾	100¾
First Chicago 7 1980 ..	96¾	97¾
GATX 8¼ 1987 ..	95¾	96¾
Gould 9¾ 1985 ..	101¾	102¾
Guardian Royal 8 1987	82	83
Gulf and Western 9¼ 1980 ..	102¾	103¾
ICI 7¾ 1992 ..	87	90
International Util 8¾ 1982 ..	97¾	98¾
Motorola 8 1987 ..	95¾	96¾
National Coal Board 8¾ 1988 ..	88	91
New Zealand 9 1980 ..	102¾	103¾
New Zealand 9¾ 1982 ..	103¾	104¾
Nippon Fudosan 10¼ 1980 ..	103	104¾
Nippon Steel 9¾ 1980	101¾	102¾
NA Rockwell 8¾ 1987	93¾	94
Occidental 10 1981 ..	100¾	101¾
Ontario Hydro 9 1980 ..	103	103¾
Pacific Lighting 8 1988	93¾	95¾
Pacific Lighting 9¾ 1981	101	102
Pennwalt 8 1987 ..	95¾	96¾
Ralston Purina 7¾ 1987	94¾	95¾
Scanraff 7¾ 1990 ..	91¾	92¾
Scanraff 8¾ 1988 ..	98¾	99¾
Shell 7¾ 1987 ..	95¾	96¾
Singer 11 1977 ..	99	101
Skandinaviska 10¾ 1981	106	107
Standard Oil 8¾ 1980	102¾	103¾
Standard Oil 8¾ 1988 ..	100¾	101¾
Standard Oil 8¾ 1988 ..	100¾	101¾
Statsforetag 9¾ 1980 ..	101	102
Sybron 8 1987 ..	95¾	96¾
Tenneco 7¾ 1987 ..	89¾	90¾
Textron 7¾ 1987 ..	88¾	89¾
Transocean Gulf 7¾ 1980 ..	95	96
Union Oil 7¾ 1987 ..	95¾	96¾
Williams & Glyns 8¾ 1987 ..	88	91

DM BONDS	Bid	Offer
CP 8¾ 1987 ..	103	104
Denmark 9¾ 1980 ..	103¾	104¾
ECI 8¾ 1982 ..	103	104
Mexico 9 1982 ..	103¾	104¾
National Westminster 8 1988 ..	99¾	100¾
Sumitomo Metal Inds 8¾ 1982 ..	104¾	105¾
Sun Int Fin 7¾ 1988	97¾	98¾

$ CONVERTIBLES	Bid	Offer
AMF 5 1987 ..	71	73
American Exp 4¾ 1987	83	84
Beatrice Foods 4¾ 1992	95	97
Beatrice Foods 6¾ 1991	106	108
Beatrice Foods 4¾ 1993	99	101
Borden 5 1992 ..	96	97
Borden 6¾ 1991 ..	106	108
Broadway Hale 4¾ 1987	75¾	77¾
Carnation 4 1988 ..	81	83
Chevron 5 1992 ..	101	103
Cummins 6¾ 1986 ..	86	88
Dart 4¾ 1987 ..	88	90
Eastman Kodak 4¾ 1988	116	118
Economic Labs 4¾ 1987	80	82
Fed Dept Stores 4¾ 1985	136	138
Ford 5 1988 ..	87	89
Ford 6 1986 ..	96¾	98¾
Gillette 4¾ 1987 ..	81¾	83¾
Gould 5 1987 ..	88¾	90¾
Gen Electric 4¾ 1987	86¾	88¾
Gulf & Western 5 1988	102	104
Harris 5 1987 ..	84	86
Honeywell 6 1986 ..	85	85
ITT 4¾ 1987 ..	77	79
J R McDermott 4¾ 1987	116¾	118¾
J P Morgan 4¾ 1987 ..	109	111
Nabisco 5¾ 1988 ..	91	93
Owens Illinois 4¾ 1987	99	101
J C Penney 4¾ 1987 ..	81	83
Revlon 4¾ 1987 ..	99	101
Rank Org 4¾ 1993 ..	38	40
Sperry Rand 4¾ 1988	98	100
Squibb 4¾ 1987 ..	81	83
Texaco 4¾ 1988 ..	75	77
Union Carbide 4¾ 1982	128	130
Warner Lambert 4¾ 1987	91	93
Xerox Corp 5 1988 ..	77	79

DM = Deutschmark issue.
Source: Kidder, Peabody Securities, London.

Canadian Prices

[illegible]

Authorized Units, Insurance & Offshore Funds

[illegible]

هكذا من الاصل

GET THE FACTS ABOUT
Cwmbran
GARDEN CITY OF WALES
For information about industrial opportunities in Cwmbran New Town please write to R. P. Mensley, M.B.E., M.C., General Manager, Cwmbran Development Corporation, Gwent House, Town Centre, Cwmbran, Gwent NP4 3XJ. Telephone: Cwmbran 67777

Stock Exchange Prices

Quiet session

ACCOUNT DAYS: Dealings Began, March 8. Dealings End, Mar 19. § Contango Day, Mar 22. Settlement Day, Mar 30
§ Forward bargains are permitted on two previous days.

SURVEYORS VALUERS AND AUCTIONEERS OF REAL ESTATE
Healey & Baker
Established 1820 in London
29 St. George Street, Hanover Square, London W1A 3BG 01-629 9292
ASSOCIATED OFFICES PARIS, BRUSSELS, AMSTERDAM & JERSEY

COMMERCIAL AND INDUSTRIAL

HEALTH AND FOREIGN

AUTHORITIES

STOCKS

DISCOUNTS

AND DISTILLERIES

A—B

C—E

F—H

I—L

M—N

O—S

T—Z

INSURANCE

INVESTMENT TRUSTS

FINANCIAL TRUSTS

SHIPPING

MINES

OIL

PROPERTY

RUBBER

TEA

MISCELLANEOUS

● Ex dividend. a Ex all. b Forecast dividend. c Corrected price. e Interim payment passed. f Price at suspension. g Dividend and yield exclude a special payment. h Bid for company. k Pre-merger figures. n Forecast earnings. p Ex capital distribution. r Ex rights. s Ex scrip or share split. t Tax free. y Price adjusted for late dealings. .. No significant data.

THE TIMES SHARE INDICES

The Times Share Indices for 09.03.76 (base date June 2, 1964 original base date June 2, 1959):

	Index No. Latest	Div. Yield %	Earnings Yield %	Index No. Previous
The Times Industrial Share Index	167.43	5.92	10.65	165.—
Largest Coys.	167.43	5.75	10.11	166.34
Smaller Coys.	167.67	6.44	9.90	166.96
Capital Goods	175.92	6.33	9.92	175.54
Consumer Goods	185.15	6.10	10.50	183.94
Store Shares	134.16	6.57	7.34	134.67
Largest financial shares	190.17	5.45	—	189.67
Largest financial and industrial shares	171.76	5.70	—	170.76
Commodity shares	202.20	4.66	11.78	201.23
Gold Mining shares	329.73	5.38	14.56	340.05
Industrial debenture stocks	55.56	7.40*	—	55.16
Industrial preference stocks	34.63	13.04*	—	34.65
3½% War Loan	26½	13.54*	—	26¼

A record of The Times Industrial Share Indices is given below —

	High	Low
All-time	198.47 (15.08.72)	60.15 (13.12.74)
1976	171.30 (20.02.76)	159.37 (05.01.76)
1975	156.92 (19.11.75)	61.42 (06.01.75)
1974	136.18 (28.02.74)	60.15 (13.12.74)
1973	169.33 (12.01.73)	120.92 (14.12.73)
1972	198.47 (15.08.72)	154.48 (14.01.72)
1971	174.77 (31.12.71)	122.23 (02.03.71)

* Flat interest yield.

Property

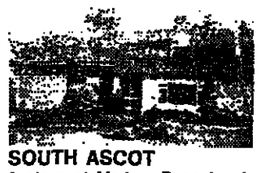
Country property



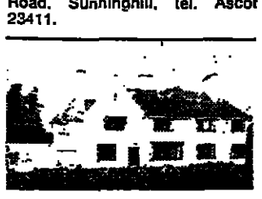
ASCOT
An impressive Georgian style house built about 5 years ago in a well known, high quality residential area. 5 bedrooms (all with built-in wardrobes), 2 bathrooms, 3 reception rooms, hall cloakroom, kitchen, laundry room, double garage. Gas ducted warm air central heating, excellent decorative order. 1 acre gardens. Freehold. £50,000. Estate Offices, London Road, Sunninghill, tel. Ascot 23411.



WOKING
A luxuriously appointed residence skilfully and lavishly extended to form a delightful home. 5 bedrooms and 4 bathrooms (including 3 suites), one bedroom being in the Japanese style, 39ft. drawing room, dining room/private cinema, billiards room, beautiful indoor swimming pool, breakfast room, superb luxury kitchen, sauna suite, heating, garaging, gardens of about ¾ acre. £70,000. Chobham Road, Sunningdale, tel. Ascot 21655.

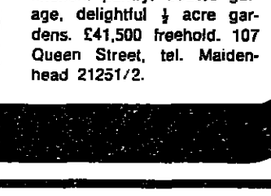


SOUTH ASCOT
A pleasant Modern Bungalow in quiet secluded location, in mature gardens of about ½ acre. 3 bedrooms, bathroom/w.c., large reception hall, living room, spacious kitchen, double garage, full gas fired central heating. External w.c., greenhouse. Freehold. £35,950. Estate Offices, London Road, Sunninghill, tel. Ascot 23411.



CAMBERLEY
A spacious Detached Family House within 1 mile of the town centre and main line station. 5 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, dressing room, 3 reception rooms, laundry room, kitchen, breakfast room, small self-contained Flat, passenger lift, double garage, secluded garden of approx. ¾ acre. £48,500 Freehold. Maybury House, High Street, Frimley, tel. Camberley 63292.

EAST BERKSHIRE
A small Country House of character in an enviable position adjoining open farmland on the fringe of a popular village between Wokingham and Maidenhead. Principal suite of bedroom and bathroom, 6 further bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, drawing room, dining room, study, cloakrooms, excellent domestic offices, games room/sitting room.
Gas central heating, swimming pool, tennis court, garaging and outbuildings, formal gardens and paddocks, in all about 3 acres.
Offers invited in region of £60,000. 25 Broad Street, tel. Wokingham 787878.



MAIDENHEAD
An outstanding Modern Family House in a superb rural position. Individually designed for a builder with 4 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, dressing room, hall, cloakroom, drawing room, dining room, study, superb kitchen, laundry room, double garage. Full central heating. Gardens adjoining fields. £45,000. 107 Queen Street, tel. Maidenhead 21251/2.

TUFNELL & PARTNERS



LONDON S.W.3
Rarely available 2 small adjacent houses ideal for conversion or 2 separate residences. Well modernised. Offers invited for the freeholds. 28 Elizabeth Street, SW1, tel. 01-730 9112.



OXFORDSHIRE
Rural position on edge of Cotswolds. 15 miles Oxford. Attractive renovated stone built Georgian type house, 3 bedrooms, bathroom; 3 reception rooms, games room. Oil-fired central heating. Garage, Stabling for 5. Attractive garden with pond. Also available: Attractive Cottage converted from barn. 3/4 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms. 3 reception rooms. Central heating. Garaging and stabling. Garden. About 5 acres in all. Offers invited for the freehold. 44 Castle Street, tel. Salisbury 28562.



WINDSOR
Most sought after locality within the Royal Borough. Imposing Detached Victorian Residence. The spacious accommodation is maintained to a high standard and comprises 4 bedrooms, boxroom, 2 bathrooms, drawing room, dining room, breakfast room, kitchen, splendid entrance hall, cloakroom and cellar. Full gas-fired central heating. Double garage, well stocked gardens approaching ¼ acre. £42,950. 2/4 Sheet Street, tel. Windsor 60401.



MAIDENHEAD
A superb Edwardian Family House undoubtedly one of the finest in the area. In superb condition, the accommodation offers 5 large bedrooms, bathroom with separate w.c., impressive entrance hall drawing room, dining room, study, breakfast room, kitchen, pantry, double garage, delightful ½ acre gardens. £41,500 freehold. 107 Queen Street, tel. Maidenhead 21251/2.



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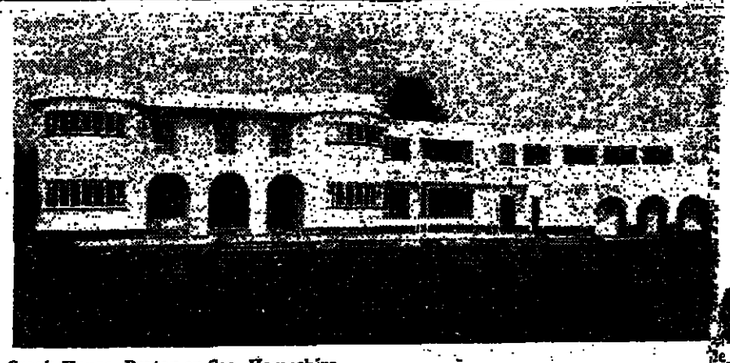
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Residential Property

Changing things for the better



Creek House, Barton-on-Sea, Hampshire.

Provided they have enough land about them, many houses are altered and added to over the years by owners who have particular needs. Sometimes this can result in something of a hotchpotch of accommodation with a narrow appeal when it comes into the market.

Equally, when such additions have been cleverly contrived, they provide a large amount of useful space which in turn can be further adapted to meet differing needs.

So it is with Garden House, in London Road, Sunningdale, which seems to reflect a mixture of active and infirm occupancies. For instance, there is a small passenger lift from one of the bedroom suites to the ground floor, and also on the ground floor there is a bed sitting room and bathroom.

The front part of the house, which has a small clock tower, probably dates from the 1830s or 1840s; but the back part is modern.

Main accommodation includes four reception rooms, two bedroom suites and three further bedrooms, making six in all with the bed sitting room.

The more active element in the use of the house is a games room 42ft long built on to one side, and a swimming pool with a pavilion containing changing rooms and a kitchenette. There is a walled garden of about three-quarters of an acre. The price is £57,500, through the Sunninghill office of Tufnell and Partners.

Also lavishly equipped but in a much higher price class is Creek House, in Barton Common Road, Barton-on-Sea, Hampshire. The original house was built in the 1930s and, because of a connexion between the first owner and the owner of an Italian marble quarry, some of that material was used in the building.

The present owner has almost doubled the size of the earlier house and added to its amenities. For one thing there is a heated and air-conditioned swimming pool 43ft long, for another, a games room 47ft long, giving on to a large balcony which has views across the Solent to the Isle of Wight and most of Christchurch Bay.

Main accommodation includes two reception rooms, a study, five bedrooms and two dressing rooms. There are about two acres immediately with the house, and another five in the village of Sway near by. Offers in the region of £100,000 are being asked through Jackson and Jackson, of New Milton.

The same figure is being asked for a good, small country estate called Plas Llanychan, near Ruthin, in the famous Vale of Clwyd. The house is of brick and gabled construction, with two reception rooms, a main bedroom, bathroom and dressing room suite and three further bedrooms. Outside, a range of period outbuildings provides garaging and stabling and there is a flat above them.

Gardens and grounds, which include half a mile of single bank fishing on the Clwyd river, run to about 10 acres, and there is a further 52 acres of pasture. The house, flat, fishing and 10 acres would be sold at £50,000, if the extra land is not required. The agents are the Chester office of Jackson-Stops and Staff.

An architecturally interesting property is Little Wardrobes, in Wardrobes Lane, in the Chilterns, near Princes Risborough, Buckinghamshire. The house dates in part from about 1710 and has many features of the Queen Anne period, but also, curiously, has castellations on one side.

There are three reception rooms, a combined breakfast room and kitchen, five bedrooms and a playroom. Beside the entrance drive is a period barn converted to provide a large reception or music room, and a cottage with a sitting room and two bedrooms.

Gardens are about two and a half acres and there is also a paddock of seven and a half acres. The price is £60,000 through Knight Frank and Rutley and Hamnett Raffety.

Another house offering a mixture of periods is Heath Vale, Lower Bourne, Farnham, Surrey. It is believed that the rear part was originally an old cottage, enlarged in the front in the classical style somewhere about 1880, and it therefore has the spacious rooms and good ceiling heights of that period.

It has two reception rooms, a study, a breakfast room and four main bedrooms. In the older part of the building there is a fifth bedroom and either a sewing room of a sixth bedroom.

The garden of about one and a half acres has a number of rare trees including Wych elm and a Ginkgo, or maidenhair tree. The price is £42,000 and the agents are Messenger May Baverstock, of Farnham.

For those who like houses out of their period, an interesting property is Chiltern Manor, at Bourne End, Buckinghamshire, a replica of a small Tudor manor house, but built at the beginning of this century. Much old oak was used in the interior. The main feature of the accommodation is a suite of three connecting reception rooms, one of which is a partially galleried studio drawing room.

There are also a morning room and seven bedrooms. Terraced gardens of about an acre have a swimming pool.

The price is £55,000 and agents are Hampton and of London, jointly with and Giddy, of Maidenhe

Genuinely old is Sp Farm, at Polstead Heath folk, now well restored dates from the seventeenth century and is built of with a peg tiled roof. features are Suffolk floors on the ground exposed timbers and a fireplace in a galleried room. There are two fur reception rooms, a main room suite and three bedrooms.

Grounds of about nine a half acres include two pa a barn and the orig granary suitable for conver into a studio, subject planning consent. Offers £36,000 are being as through Bairstow Eves, Shenfield, Essex.

As implied by its name, house called The White Hor at Green Tye, near Mu Hadham, Hertfordshire, w formerly the village pub, n renovated and converted i a pleasant residence. Built brick under a slate roof, the outside rendered whitened, the house has reception rooms and four rooms. The garden is half an acre, and the pri £32,750. The agents Sworder Jennings, of Bis Stortford.

Offers in the regi £40,000 are being ask Sellack House, near Ro Wye, an elegant Ge stone built country house views over the river. three reception rooms main bedrooms and thr ther bedrooms on the floor. Grounds run to four acres and the through the Hereford o Bernard Thorpe and P

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WHITEHALL COURT, S.W.1
Luxurious well decorated 4th floor flat in this prestige block. 2 double bedrooms, drawing room, dining area, kitchen, 2 bathrooms, cloakroom. C.H., constant hot water, resident porter, restaurant and room service, valet services.
Lease 52 years £55,000

WINCHESTER STREET, S.W.1
Newly decorated ground floor flat. Bedroom, reception room, kitchen, bathroom. C.H., entryphone.
Lease 99 years £16,850

MARGARETTA TERRACE, S.W.3
Terraced house which has been virtually rebuilt to a high standard. 3 bedrooms, 2 reception rooms, luxury fitted kitchen, 2 bathrooms, cloakroom, C.H., garden, intercom system.
Freehold £75,000

MAYFAIR, W.1
Spacious 3rd floor flat in a modern luxury block in the heart of Mayfair. 3 bedrooms, double reception room, kitchen, 3 bathrooms, sauna. Underfloor electric heating, constant hot water, lift, porter, entryphone, car parking space.
Lease 85 years £95,000

HEAD OFFICE: 1 BUCKINGHAM PALACE ROAD LONDON SW1W 0QD. TEL: 01-834 6890
LONDON AND PROVINCES - FRANCE - BELGIUM - HOLLAND

Jackson-Stops & Staff
14 CURZON STREET, LONDON W1Y 7FH. TEL: 01-499 6291

CHELSEA. A luxury new house built to a high specification and situated in a quiet backwater convenient for Kings Road and Sloane Square. 2 recep, 3 beds, 2 bath, kit, cloaks, integral garage, walled gdn. Realistic price required for a long lease.

TEDDINGTON. Unique riverside position with adjacent deep mooring. Excellent modern house comprising 3 recep, 3 beds, 2 bath, kit, cloaks, garage, secluded roof terrace. Residents' swimming pool and tennis court. Price £85,000.

PIMLICO. Compact and easily run ground floor flat in a purpose built block between Victoria and Sloane Square. 1/2 recep, 2/3 beds, kit., bath., sep. W.C. Long lease. Price £19,000.

BAYSWATER. Superb light and spacious first floor flat within easy reach of the West End and Hyde Park. Large recep with French windows to balcony, 2 beds (one leading to south facing sun terrace), kit, bath, W.C. Long lease. Price £19,000.

KENSINGTON. A large gracious drawing room is the feature of this attractive maisonette situated within easy reach of all amenities including Kensington Gdns. 2 recep. 3 beds, bath, sep. W.C., kit., b'fast rm. Ind. C.H. Lease 20 yrs. Price £25,000.

CADOGAN SQUARE. Spacious and well planned ground floor flat. 2 large recep, 3 dble beds, 2 bath, cloaks, kit. Ind C.H. and use of the Square Gdns. Long lease. Price £47,000.

PIMLICO. An attractive and practically designed maisonette in good order throughout and with low annual outgoings. 2 recep, 3 beds, bath, sep. W.C., kit. Access to Eccleston Square gardens. Long lease. Price £26,500.

TWIXT PUTNEY & RICHMOND
IN QUIET CLOSE
MODERN TOWN HOUSE
Close to Barnes Common and Roehampton Club. Within few steps of public transport to West End & City. Good order. 3, 4 beds., 2 bath., 2 reception, good kitchen, c.h. Garage. South-facing garden. Cloaks.
FREEHOLD £35,000

LUXURY MEWS COTTAGE
QUEENS GATE, S.W.7 (close)
Completely modernized and redesigned, quietly situated and beautifully appointed; planning consent for additional storey; full central heating: bedroom, bathroom, fine reception, dining room, kitchen, double garage.
FREEHOLD £37,500

IN QUIET BACKWATER
CROMWELL ROAD (close)
Delightful, fully modernized cottage in superb order in quiet cul-de-sac, within walking distance of shops, buses and Earls Court Station. Garden, 2 bedrooms, bathroom, 2 reception, fitted kitchen.
FREEHOLD £39,500

J. TREVOR & SONS
58 GROSVENOR STREET W1X 0DD
01-629 8151

London & Suburban property

Sturt & Tivendale
59/61 Highgate High St., N.6
01-348 8131

HIGHGATE VILLAGE N.6
IN A QUIET CUL-DE-SAC. An outstanding modern Town House on three floors, 4 bedrooms, 2 dressing rooms, 3 bathrooms, ultra-modern kitchen, cloakroom, integral garage. Full central heating. Pleasant garden.
Freehold £47,500

Highgate Village, N.6
An extraordinarily spacious town house in the heart of the village, 4 bedrooms, 2 dressing rooms, 3 bathrooms, hall, cloakroom, large reception room, play/garden room, kitchen, extensive store-room, gas central heating, garage, garden. Freehold. £49,750.

Highpoint, N.6
A spacious 3rd and 4th floor duplex flat with excellent views across communal gardens, swimming pool and tennis courts to the Heath beyond. 4 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, hall, cloakroom, exceptional, partly double-volume 36ft. reception room, dining room, kitchen, balcony, lift, porterage. Entryphone. 2 garages available on rental. Lease 120 years. £48,950.

Highgate, N.6
A recently converted first floor flat in a substantial property. 2 beds., bath., hall, entryphone, living/dining room, kit/breakfast room. C.H. 99 yr. lease. £17,950.

Belsize Park, N.W.3
Newly modernised first floor flat, 2 beds., bath., hall, living room, kitchen. Lease 97 years. £16,950.

Hampstead Village, N.W.3
A superbly modernised early Georgian town house, in heart of the village. 6 beds., 3 baths., dressing room, hall, clks., panelled drawing room, dining room, study play/sitting room, superb kitchen, laundry. South-facing garden. Freehold. £99,500.

Hampstead Village, N.W.3
A modern mews house, in the heart of the village. 4 beds., 2 baths., lounge, dining room, kitchen. Gas C.H. Patio garden. Lease 115 years. £56,950.

HAMPTON & SONS
21 Heath St., London, N.W.3.
01-794 8222

"BOLTON HOUSE STANDING IN GRAVE DIGNITY ON THE RIDGE OF WINDMILL HILL HAS MEMORABLE LITERARY ASSOCIATIONS"

The Annals of Hampstead Vol II chapter 17

South facing over Hampstead village, early Georgian house, visited by Scott, Wordsworth and Keats. Recently superbly restored and redecorated. Panelled first floor sitting room, dining room, study, master bedroom. Exquisite balustraded original staircase. 3/4 other bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, separate basement sitting room, bedroom and bathroom. Luxury kitchen equipped with Gobtreit, Westinghouse Scholtes. Laundry room. Gas central heating. Water softener. Landscaped front garden overlooking Hollybush Green, rear paved area with sandpit. Luxury carpets and curtains throughout are included in reluctant sale price. Vacant possession on early settlement. Private sale.

£98,500 FREEHOLD

Please telephone 01-794 3383

HAMPSTEAD GARDEN SUBURB
Spacious semi-detached family house, 4 bedrooms (3 with hand basins), dining room, drawing room with French windows opening onto terrace and easily maintained garden with fruit and flower beds, fully fitted Wrighton kitchen/breakfast room, laundry, integral garage, full c.h. £42,500.
01-455 1732.

London Flats

CLOSE BAKER ST., W.1
Excellent value, new 3rd and 4th floor maisonette in quiet location. 3 beds., 2 baths., "L" reception room, cloakroom, large kitchen. Balcony. Lift. C.h. Garage extra.
LONG LEASE. £39,750
CHESTERTONS 01-262 7202 (ref. NS1)

IGHTHAM COMMON, CHESHAM
NEAR SEVENOAKS, KENT. Two exceptional Building Sites, each over ½ acre. Permission for one dwelling on each, offers in the region of £11,000 for each site.
Ibbett Mosely, Card & Co., 125 High Street, Sevenoaks. Tel. 52246.

ST. JOHN'S WOOD
Top flats negotiator required to join our rapidly expanding team. Excellent terms by arrangement. Phone:
Anscombe & Ringland
01-586 3111
(Ref. S.H.G.)

HINTON & CO. In association with GIDDY & GIDDY
47 SOUTH AUDLEY STREET, MAYFAIR, W.1. Tel.: 01-493 3891

DEVONSHIRE ST., W.1. 5th floor flat in established block with lift & porterage, just off Portland Place. 1 bed., 1 recept., fitted kitchen, bathroom, c.h.
Leasehold £15,000.

ST. JOHN'S WOOD. 11th floor luxury flat in prestige block with lifts, c.h., resident porter. 3 beds., lounge, balcony, fitted kitchen, bathroom, cloakroom. Ample cupboards.
Long lease £38,450.

MAYFAIR. Fantastic luxury flat in prestige address. 4 beds., 4 recepts., dream kitchen, sauna, superb decorations, porterage, etc.
Short lease £35,000 o.n.o.

CHELSEA. Modernised period Town House just off Kings Rd. finished to highest standards. 5 beds., 2 recepts., American kitchen, 2 baths., patio, c.h.
Freehold £75,000 o.n.o.

MAYFAIR. Elegant prestige flat with beautifully proportioned rooms, lift & porterage. 5/6 beds., 3 recepts., 3 baths., staff flat.
Leasehold £90,000.

MAYFAIR. Beautiful Period residence of great style. 7/8 beds., 4 baths., 4 recepts. Beautiful & extensive gardens. Must be viewed. Leasehold offers invited.

ANDREW MILTON
01-584 4801

HASKER ST., SW3
2 bed., 2 recpt., gdn., c.h., modernised. Freehold £38,950

SLOANE GATE MANSIONS
Top floor (lift), 4 rooms, roof terr., low outgoings. 99 year lease. £29,000.

KNIGHTSBRIDGE
Immac., 2 roomed 1st floor balcony flat. Ch. 83 yrs. £20,500.

ROY BROOKS
Moravian Cnr., 359 Kings Rd., S.W.3. (352 0061)

Discreet HOLLYWOOD MEWS, KENSINGTON. Immaculate 9 year old mews house in quiet courtyard near The Boltons. Gas cent. htg. 17ft. drawing room, parquet, 3 bedrooms, wardrobes, 2 bathrooms, fit. kit. Garage. Lease 90 years. G.R. £45. £37,950.

PIMLICO, S.W.1. Sadly neglected Victorian res. comprising 10 rooms in fine white rendered period terrace. Many, many thousands to be spent but cheap at £22,000. 80 year lease. G.R. £120.

OFF KINGS ROAD, CHELSEA, by the Worlds End. Unconverted Victorian terraced family house of 12 rooms in need of complete refitting and refurbishing throughout. £22,950. 80 year lease. G.R. £95.

VICARAGE GATE, W.8
In unusual Victorian studio house, a maisonette of character. Ground/first floor, 24ft. x 14ft. recept., superbly fitted kit./dining room, master bed. 20ft. x 19ft. 6in., 2 smaller beds., cloaks., bath., plus basement flat of 2 rooms and bath (kit. req.). 99 years at £150 p.a. £47,500 (Ref. CJR).

Marsh & Parsons
937 6091

Randolph Mews, W.9.
Close to the Little Venice Canal, in quiet position. Delightful mews house with 31ft. reception room, 3 bedrooms, bathroom, kitchen, C.H., patio and separate garage. Lease 80 years. £39,750.

John D. Wood & Co.,
103 Parkway, N.W.1.
267 3267

PRIMROSE HILL, N.W.3.
Superb detached modern house in fine order throughout. Affording 3 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, 2 reception rooms, kitchen, C.H., patio, garage. Immediate sale—view today. 722 7256 or 935 3797
Freehold £65,000

John D. Wood & Co.,
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WILTON CRESCENT, S.W.1
Elegant 4 storey Georgian house. Magnificent 40ft. L-shaped drawing room, dining room, modern kitchen, 8 bedrooms, 4 bathrooms, kitchenette, utility room, cellar storage.
Newly modernised and decorated throughout. Carpets. Gas c.h. Available now. 53 year lease. £80,000.

Telephone 01-680 1021

FULHAM, S.W.6
Attractive terraced property on 2 floors, maintained in excellent order. 3 bedrooms, 26ft. recp. room, dining room, bathroom, sep. w.c., modern kitchen, garden. Freehold £25,000.

CLAPHAM COMMON (OFF) S.W.11
Well maintained. Freehold. 4 bedrooms, 3 reception rooms, 2 bathrooms, kitchen, small garden. £16,500.

F. W. GAPP
730 9245

STANHOPE MEWS EAST, S.W.7
Close South Kensington tube. Long lease, 3-bed. house on 3 floors, with extensive garaging. Recept. with dining hall, kit., bath. & cloaks. 84 years at £75 p.a.
£38,000 inc carpets.

Marsh & Parsons
937 6091

KENSINGTON, W.14
Substantial non-basement family hse. adj. Holland Park. 6 beds., 3 baths., 2/3 recepts., kit./bkfst. rm., guest cl'rm., laundry rm., C.H. Paved gdn.
FREEHOLD. £65,000.
DE GROOT COLLIS
01-734 1304.

W.11.—Clarendon Road, on quiet communal gardens, garage, large house, 5/6 beds. with basement flat. Freehold. £69,500 o.n.o. Please telephone. 01-603 8005.

CHELSEA/FULHAM borders, S.W.6. Family house arranged as 2 units. 5 bedrooms, large reception room, 2 bathrooms, 2 kitchens, good size rear garden. £28,500 Freehold. Miltons 767 0075.

HIGHGATE, N6. Large 1910 house superbly modernised by architects. 4 bedrooms, fitted dressing room with shower, 3 reception rooms, pine faced dining room and kitchen. Excellent condition, c.h., fitted carpets, patio and garden. Freehold. £40,000. Tel. 01-348 1989.

HERTS BORDERS, on the doorstep for golf, riding, etc., and easy reach tube. Fine detached house with 120ft. south facing garden. 5 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, lounge, dining room, study, breakfast room, spacious fitted kitchen, playroom. Cloakroom, c.h., 3 garages. Excellent order, early possession. Freehold £39,600. Woodcocks. 01-794 1151.

HAMPSTEAD HEATH. Spacious family house with secluded 90ft. garden; 2 reception rooms, morning room/fitted kitchen, 4 bedrooms, bathroom; Super garden flat with 35ft. reception room, kitchen and bathroom; C.H., fitted carpets. Freehold £38,750. Woodcocks, 01-794 1151.

BATTERSEA PARK. Jackson Rose & Co. offer 4-storey house, ½ mile from Chelsea Bridge and close to station (next stop Victoria). 4 dble. beds., 27ft. recept., kit., bath + s/c basement flat & garden. Rewired & replumbed, but other improvements desirable. F/H £16,000.—Apply 296 Kings Road, Chelsea. 01-352 1066.

A LIST of houses selected for "super decor" free on request. Boyd & Boyd. 584 6863.

OVERLOOKING Wandsworth Common, S.W.11. Semi-det. Vic. house of enormous proportion. Comp. 5 beds, 23ft. recep., 14ft. by 12ft. kit., 2 bathrooms and shower rm.; garage, garden, featuring full c.h., d. glazing, fitted carpets. £29,000 F/H o.n.o. R. Barclay and Co., 328 6088.

WESTMINSTER, double-fronted 4/5 beds., 2 baths., 2/3 recepts., kitchen, garage. C.H. Freehold. £40,600.—Tuckermans. 01-799 5511.

HERBERT COURT, S.W.5.—Last remaining newly modernized family flat in charming Victorian block. 3 reception rooms with balcony facing south-west over tree-lined square, 4 beds., 2 luxury baths. and kitchen, gas c.h. Entry phone. Wilton carpet throughout. Lift. £29,500 for 125 year lease. 01-584 8517. C.P.K.

REDCLIFFE SQUARE, S.W.10. Spacious new one-bed flat in elegant Victorian mansion, undergoing radical conversion by CPK Construction. Reception overlooks garden square. Attractive, well-equipped k. & b. Gas c.h. Bags of built-in storage. Entry phone. £16,600 for 75 years lease. 01-584 8517. CPK.

LOWNDES SQUARE, 5th floor flat, 2/3 beds. plus dressing room, 1 bath, sep. w.c., 2/3 reception plus staff sitting room, bed. and bath. Lots of built-in wardrobes. Rent £5,250 p.a. 6 years. Good fixtures & fittings for sale £7,500. Warburton 589 6589.

STUDIO FLAT.—1 room, kitchen, bath, c.h., porter. Nash terrace adj. Regents Park tube. Low outgoings, fixture, fittings. Remainder lease for sale. 499 2058, day.

PIMLICO FLATS. £16,500-£25,000. Pilgrim Props., 828 4600.

KENSINGTON, W.8.—In much favoured position, newly converted architect-designed house. Flats for sale (two only) each with 1 bed., 1 rec., luxury kitchen and bath, one with patio, e.t. or gas c.h.: 99-yr. leases at very low g.r.: £16,950 and £17,950.—Robert E. Wright, F.R.I.C.S., 16 Palace Gardens Terrace, W.8. 727 6203.

SW3. Excellent quiet 4th floor modern, luxury, 2 bed, flat, c.h., lift, garage. Lease 96 years. £30,000. May & Co. 352 0431.

EDWARDS SQ., W.8. Elegant 1st floor luxury flat, purpose built, 3 rooms, k. and b., long lease, porter, parking, gardens. £25,750. 01-602 6850 or 01-356 1800.

PIMLICO. Purpose built, 3 bedroomed flat. 153 year lease. £24,500. — Dauntons, 01-834 1032/6449.

ALDERNEY ST., S.W.1. Spacious basement flat. Lounge 15 x 14, kitchen, dining room, double bedroom, bathroom, patio. Lease 99 yrs. £15,000.—Dauntons, 834 1032, 6449.

F. L. MERCER & CO.
66-68 Haymarket, S.W.1. Telephone: 01-930 7761

CHARMING FLAT, MANOR FIELDS, S.W.15
One of London's most pleasing Luxury Flat developments, standing in several acres of beautiful grounds adjoining Putney Heath and Wimbledon Common. Few mins. walk to High St. & Tube. Easy access West End & City. Spacious 2nd Floor flat with 2 bedrooms, Large Sitting Room, fitted Kitchen, Bathroom, separate W.C., Lock-up Garage. Constant hot water and central heating. Porterage, Tennis Courts. Long lease. Only £19,000.

HAMPSTEAD, N.W.3
Fine position with open views, walking distance Hampstead village, Finchley Road and Swiss Cottage (Northern, Metropolitan and Bakerloo line stations). Convenient for the Heath and Regent's Park. Charming first floor flat with spacious interior and garden views. Dining Hall, 20ft. Sitting Room, fitted Kitchen, 3 Bedrooms, Balcony, Bathroom. Gas-fired C.H. Large garden. 999 year lease. Low outgoings. £26,000 to include fitted carpets and some curtains.

Humbert, Flint, Rawlence & Squarey
Chartered Surveyors

PORTSEA HALL, W.1
Spacious and very bright 5th floor flat close to Marble Arch. Large reception, 5 bedrooms, 3 bathrooms, kitchen, porterage, lifts, C.H., C.H.W. Lease 61 years. Ground Rent £100 p.a.
£52,500.
Details from:
28b Albemarle Street, W1.
Tel. 01-491 3820.

48 BERKELEY SQ. MAYFAIR, W.1
Unique opportunity to acquire newly modernized spacious 3 bedroomed flat in one of London's most exclusive squares. 30 foot drawing/dining room, 2 double bedrooms with bathroom en suite, 1 single bedroom, hall study, cloakroom, modern fitted kitchen by Dclafon. Garden terrace. Total outgoings approx. £1,200 p.a. including all services. £55,000 for 57-year lease.
Tel. G.P., 01-493 1780

KENSINGTON SW7
Two attractive flats, small block, convenient shops, transport, K'bridge. C.h., c.h.w. Double glazing, lift, porter, entry phone. Lease 125 years. Each 2 beds, dble. recep. K. and b.
GARDEN LEVEL:
Modernised. Decorated. Patio
£21,500
5TH FLOOR:
Rewired. Decorated
£25,000
01-528 7577 anytime
YORKE FLATS

£30,000 o.n.o.
Knightsbridge, S.W.3 (just off)
Only 1 remaining unit in most elegant, postwar conversion close to Harrods and excellent transport facilities. 3 bedrooms, reception room, kitchen, bathroom and cloakroom, with terrace and balcony. Lease approximately 99 years. Ref.: ALJ.

FOLKARD & HAYWARD
115 Baker St., W1M 2AY
01-935 7799

GLOUCESTER STREET, S.W.1
Excellent garden floor flat in Sunny corner house. 1 double bed., 1 single bed., reception, separate kitchen, bathroom & shower room. 2 patios. gas c.h. 97½ years at £50 p.a. £19,500 to include carpets.
KALMAR BAKER & CO.
01-581 2661

HYDE PARK GDNS., W.2
Bargain price for spacious top. 4th floor flat (1,800 sq. ft.) in scheduled period building facing South over Park. 2 large recept., 2 dble. beds., 2 bath., 2 single beds./study/dressing room, kit., c.h., c.h.w., lift, resident porters. Access gardens, car parking. 72 year lease. £56,000 incl. c., c., f. and f.
GEORGE BELBIN & CO.
01-584 8846.

CROMWELL CRESCENT, S.W.5.
A superb bachelor flat or town pied-a-terre with garage, converted and decorated regardless of cost. 1 dble bedroom, 17ft. L-shaped reception, excellent kitchen, and bath. gas c.h., 2 balconies. 123 years at £60 p.a. £25,000.
KALMAR BAKER & CO.
01-581 2661

ST. JOHN'S WOOD
£13,000
Unusual flat, large reception room and bedroom, both 30ft x 17ft, second bedroom. K. & B., in exclusive tree-lined street. Lord's 5 minutes. 15-year lease. Ground Rent £75. 286 8404 until 5.30. 603 5629 after 6 p.m.

W.8. Beautifully designed 2nd floor flat in mansion block just off Kensington High St., with magnificent terrace. 2 bedrooms, superb drawing room, dining room, luxury kitchen, bathroom & cloakroom. Must be seen! 81 year lease. £43,000 o.n.o. Alexander Stephens & Co., 930 7153.

IFIELD ROAD, S.W.10. Last remaining one-bed flat with S.W. facing patio in new C.P.K. development. Attractive k. and b., c.h., entry phone. £13,900 for 99-year lease. 01-584 8517. C.P.K.

HARCOURT TERRACE, S.W.10.—Spacious 2-bed flat in brand new C.P.K. development. Attractive well equipped k. & b., 2 bathrooms (one en suite). Ample storage space, gas c.h. Entry phone. Only £22,000 for 75-year lease. 01-584 8517. C.P.K.

IFIELD ROAD, S.W.10. Last remaining one-bed flat with s.w. facing patio in new C.P.K. development. Attractive k. and b., c.h., entry phone. £13,900 for 99-year lease. 01-584 8517. C.P.K.

SLOANE SQUARE. Jackson Rose & Co. offer 2nd floor flat in Draycott Place. 21ft. recpt., 20ft. bed., kit., bath. Resident caretaker. 80 years. Outgoings about £700 p.a. but only £13,250.—Apply 296 Kings Rd., Chelsea. 01-352 1066.

HAMPSTEAD, NW3. In favoured avenue minutes from Heath. Ground floor flat with use of garden. 21ft. bright reception room, spacious fitted kitchen, 3 bedrooms, bathroom, C.H. Long leasehold. £21,950.—Woodcocks. 01-794 1151.

GLOUCESTER TERR., W.2. 2nd floor flat with 30ft. recept., 3 bed, 2 bath low outgoings 131 yr. lse. £27,500. West Trend. 262 2530.

PIMLICO.—A new conversion.—See Properties under £25,000.

S.W.6. On pleasant street. Sunny 1st floor flat in immac. cond. 2 bed, large recept, k. & b. 125 yrs at £25 p.a. West Trend 262 2530.

WESTMINSTER FLATS for sale from £17,500.—Tuckermans. 01-799 5511.

HIGHGATE BORDERS, high up with open views. Bright top floor flat, 20ft. west facing reception room, fitted kitchen, double bedroom, bathroom, C.H., lift, garage, low outgoings, long lease. £12,700.—Woodcocks. 01-794 1151.

SHEPHERDS MARKET. 2 rooms, k. b. 94 year lease, £14,000.—Find-a-Home. 370 4771.

AUCTION REMINDER

HANOVER HOUSE, N.W.8
Spacious Mansion Flat
On the second floor in prestigious block overlooking gardens. 2 large recepts., kit./diner. 4 beds, 2 baths, sep. w.c., possible 5th bed. Requires full modernization. 97 year lease.
FOR SALE BY AUCTION
With very realistic reserve 3.00 p.m. THURSDAY, MARCH 11TH
At The Sherlock Holmes Hotel Baker Street, W1.
Full details from Auctioneers
ALLSOP & CO.,
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01-722 7101

SW1, EATON PLACE
Delightful first and second floor maisonette imaginatively converted to form an unusual and luxurious home. Fifty foot split-level reception room, master bedroom with shower room en suite, second double bedroom with dressing room en suite, large bathroom with double Bonsac bath and twin basins, pine-fitted kitchen, inclusive of cooker, fridge, etc. Spot-lit patio. Gas-fired central heating and hot water. Lifts. Lease 52 years.
Approximately £55,000 negotiable. For viewing, phone Daytime: Mr. KEOGH, 01-493 9652 or 01-493 7172 or Evenings 01-730 0143

CLOSE TO REGENT'S PARK AND OXFORD STREET
Ideal for executive couple, young or retired persons.
SUPER TWO-BEDROOMED FLAT
Porter, lift. Low outgoings. 96-year lease.
£28,750
Telephone 01-935 1076

KINGS ROAD SW3 6-7 mins. from Sloane Square Tube. Charming, spacious flat on 4th floor of modern luxury block. Double bedroom, with fitted wardrobes, large sitting room, small room, compact fitted kitchen, c.h., 58 year lease, porterage. £17,550, including carpets and curtains for Quick Sale. 01-235 1543.

Properties under £25,000

THE PICK OF PLUMSTEAD
PLUMSTEAD, S.E.18
5 MINUTES TO STATION
Charming modernised terraced house. 2 good-size bedrooms (master with fitted wardrobes), through lounge, 21ft x 14ft 6in, dining room. Hygena fitted kitchen, ½-tiled bathroom / wc (turquoise suite), sliding doors to all rooms. Afrormosia open-plan staircase. Yorkstone chimney breast, gas fires, front of house Yorkstone and pebble dash, back of house pebble dashed all over, new re-tiled roof, all new picture windows, small garden, fitted carpets included. £11,500 ono Freehold.
(evenings and weekends)

This advertisement had 4 replies by the second morning. Originally booked on our successful series plan (4 days + 1 free) the advertiser was able to cancel by 12 o'clock on the second day.

If you would like to sell your property with a quick response like this—let The Times help you and Ring on 01-278 9231 or 01-837 3311.

ROSE & CROWN YARD ST. JAMES'S, S.W.1.
Situated in the heart of St. James's, a first floor, 2 room pied-a-terre in a cul-de-sac off King's St. 20ft. reception room, bedroom, kitchen, bathroom. Night Storage heating. Lease 22 years. Price £11,250.
DONALDSONS
01-370 4500

CHISWICK
Just off High Rd. Large, detached Victorian 4-bed. house in need of modernisation. Small gdn. Garage space. Magnificent drawing room, sep. dining room, kit., etc. £19,950 Freehold.
High Rd., Chiswick. Victorian 4-storey house in need of modernisation. 9 rooms, bath., 2 sep. w.c., gdn. £15,000 Freehold.
A. J. FOWKES
150 High Rd., Chiswick, W.4
01-994 0087

CLEVELAND SQ., W.2
Overlooking this increasingly elegant square, quiet 3rd floor flat. Large sitting room, one double, one single bedroom, both with fitted wardrobes, bathroom, fully fitted kitchen, independent gas-fired C.H. Low outgoings. 95 year lease. £21,750, including fridge, gas stove, fitted carpets and curtains.
Tel. 01-638 5699
Ext. 368

NEW FOREST AREA
Attractive period thatched cottage, drawing room, dining room, breakfast room, kitchen, 3 bedrooms, 1 dressing room, modern bathroom and w.c. Full gas-fired c.h. Workroom and garage. Approx. 3 miles from sea. Under 2 hours to London. Garden about ½ acre.
£24,750 FREEHOLD
01-248 6420 Ex. 240 office hours or New Milton 610779 after 7 p.m. and weekends

ONSLOW SQUARE, SW7. Beautiful spacious split level flat near Harrods. 2 reception rooms, 5 bedrooms, 3 bathrooms, complete fitted kitchen, storage room, covered garage. 71 year lease £2,300 p.a. £14,000 f. & f. 01-603 0208.

REGENTS PARK. Luxury flat. 3 rooms, k. and b., garage, double glazed. Excellent condition. Lease 85 years. £19,750. Telephone: P. Adams, (work) 834 6677, ext. 2380.

FULHAM, S.W.6. An unusually well decorated and modernised flat close to shops and a short walk from Parsons Green Tube. 2 double bedrooms with cupboards, bathroom, reception room, well equipped kitchen, c.h. Lease 95 years. £14,250 including excellent carpets.—Stead & Glyn, 01-731 4391.

Properties under £25,000

CARLTON HILL—ST. JOHN'S WOOD
12 FULLY MODERNISED FLATS
2 and 3 bedroomed units in elegant period buildings.
- Fully fitted kitchens and bathrooms
- Independent gas central heating
- Gardens
- 99-year leases
- Prices from £19,500 to £22,500
- Show flat opens 5 to 8 p.m. Wednesdays

DANIEL SMITH BRIANT & DONE
CHARTERED SURVEYORS
157 Kennington Lane, London SE11 4HA
01-735 2292

ISLE OF ARRAN
Large stone house at Lamlash Bay, suitable as Guest House, family or holiday home, elevated position beside beach, standing in approx. ½ acre, stocked with rhododendrons, shrubs and palm trees.

Lounge bay window commands panoramic view of Holy Isle and Firth of Clyde. 12 rooms (inc. dining) + 2 bathrooms, 1 w.c., kitchen and small office.

Price £19,000 region, includes fitted carpets, beds, curtains, freezer, piano, fridge, chairs, etc.

Box 2822 S The Times

CONSERVATION AREA
N.1

Ten minutes from Bank. Charming, early Victorian, end of terrace house, in quiet cul-de-sac, delightfully renovated throughout, completely rewired and replumbed. Many period features. Spacious 'L'-shaped lounge, attractive dining room both with original shutters, compact kitchen with good working surfaces. 2 pretty bedrooms (double), extra living room/3rd bedroom, spacious bathroom. Full Gas central heating, part York stone patio. Landscaped garden with fruit trees, roses and sandpit.

Long lease £22,000 o.n.o.
01-249 1901, ANYTIME.

LUROT BRAND

SOUTH KENSINGTON
SUNNY 5th FLOOR FLAT in small block. Recept., bed., bath., kit. sep. w.c., lift, porter. 63 year lease. £14,750.

KNIGHTSBRIDGE
TWO EXCELLENT PIED A TERRE FLATS on 92 year leases. Recept., bed. recess, kit., bath. Ground Floor £15,500: 2nd Floor £14,250.

BROOK GREEN
EXCEPTIONAL NEW 34 ft. STUDIO PENTHOUSE. 22ft. kit. dining room, 34ft. terrace, bath. C.H. 100 year lease. £16,500.

BAYSWATER
CHARMING NEWLY CONV. top floor flat in quiet cul de sac. 19 x 15 recept., dble. bed., sgle. bed., 2 baths., kit., C.H., lift. 99 year lease. £24,950.

BAYSWATER
A SUPERBLY CONVERTED light & spacious lower ground floor flat in quiet cul de sac close to Notting Hill Gate. Recept., bed., kit., bath., patio, gas C.H. 99 year lease. £15,500.

01-584 6221

FLAT WANTED
2-4 bedroomed flat wanted in Chelsea around £15,000-£17,000
Telephone: Brentwood (0277) 227166

CULMSTOCK ROAD
Clapham Common S.W.1
Fully renovated Edwardian terraced house in this popular tree-lined street adjacent to West side of Common. Unusual layout (transverse staircase) provides 2 separate recep. Fitted kitchen, clean cellar, 3 double bedrooms, dressing room, bathroom. Fitted carpets throughout. Gas C.H. New wiring, damp course, etc.
FREEHOLD £20,950
BELL SON & CO.
73, Battersea Rise, S.W.11
228 4116

MALDEN MANOR
(Waterloo 25 minutes)
DETACHED HOUSE
2/3 bedrooms, 2 reception, well fitted kitchen, bathroom, separate toilet. Gas c.h. Good decorative condition. Exterior workshop/studio. Garage. Garden.
£24,500
Tel. 01-337 6105 (eves.)

PIMLICO
A new conversion of character. Very fine living room with Adam fireplace.
3 beds., c.h., very low outgoings. 99 years. £25,000.
Also other flats.
Pilgrim Properties
828 4600

CATFORD
25 MINS. WATERLOO
Large, pleasant semi detached family house, ideal for conversion into 2 flats. 8 rooms, 2 bathrooms, 2 toilets kitchen
Very large garden at rear with fruit trees and front entrance gate
FREEHOLD £17,000
Telephone 01-690 6521

S.E.23
LARGE FREEHOLD DOUBLE-FRONTED DETACHED 16-ROOMED VICTORIAN HOUSE
Suitable hostel or 3 s-c flats, or home for large family; gardens front and rear; close all amenities, park and stations.
Quick sale £24,000 o.n.o.
Tel.: 01-690 2859 (evenings)

GOLDERS GREEN N.W.11
Freehold attractive detached house, in fine condition, 3 bedrooms (2 with fitted cupboards). Large lounge, dining room-conservatory, modern fitted kitchen, luxury bathroom, double glazed and insulated throughout. Close Tubes and buses. Ideal for gardener forced to live in London.
£23,750
Telephone
01-455 3228

ACTON GREEN, W.4
Carefully and imaginatively restored Victorian terraced house, 2 large bedrooms and pretty attic bedroom with dormer window, 2 reception, kitchen and bathroom. Long sunny south facing walled garden with fruit trees.
£18,950 o.n.o.
01-994 4147

CLARENDON ROAD, W.11
Sunny ground floor flat, 2 rooms, k. and b. Long lease. Sale includes new carpets and curtains.
£15,500 o.n.o.
Telephone: 01-930 5100, extn. 367
01-451 0279, eves.

CHESHAM COUNTRYSIDE
Luxury "Victorian" ground floor flat set in 2½ acres farmland. 18ft. fully fitted kitchen, sun roof, magnificent drawing room, 2 double bedrooms, luxury bathroom. Large garage. £17,500 o.n.o. Freehold available. Chesham 71900.

FULHAM, S.W.6. An attractive and modernised south-facing house on 3 floors in a quiet cul-de-sac. 4 bedrooms, bathroom, shower room, double reception room, dining room, kitchen, garden, c.h., freehold £24,950. Stead and Glyn 01-731 4391.

PROPERTY TO LET

EAST KNOYLE WILTSHIRE
Beautiful Georgian House in Lovely Surroundings
TO LET
fully furnished for one to five years.
The accommodation on 3 floors consists of: 4 reception rooms, 7 bedrooms, 4 bathrooms, good kitchen, domestic offices. Oil fired C.H. 9 Acres Garden & Grazing. 3-car garage. Stabling for 4 horses. Gardener & housekeeper, 2 hrs. 10 mins. by road M3 from London. Good trains.
DETAILS & BROCHURE WITH PHOTOGRAPHS

ALTON, HANTS
One hour from Waterloo, fast train twice hourly. Lovely modern house extremely well furnished and decorated, to let min. one year. 5 bed., 3 recep., American kitchen, utility room, double garage, G.H., c.h.w. Attractive garden. £70 p.w.

Boyd & Boyd
01-235 1726 and 01-584 7453

MANOR HOUSE
in outstandingly beautiful
CHILTERN VALLEY, (Henley 8 miles)
owner will let furnished part: 3 receptions, 6 bedrooms, 3 baths, usual offices and garage.
Or n part of garden, use of swimming pool, opportunity for riding, shooting. Domestic and garden help available. References.
£175 p.w.
Box 2554 S The Times.

PROPERTY WANTED

REQUIRED TO RENT for over 5 executive 3 bedroom house in west Surrey area, for a term 2 years, from May, 1976. Tel. T. Shaw, 01-836 3441.

IF YOUR HOUSE is beautiful, we have many waiting applicants. Usual fees required. Boyd & Boyd, 584 6863.



La creme de la creme

WELSH DEVELOPMENT AGENCY
PRIVATE SECRETARY TO THE CHIEF EXECUTIVE

The Chief Executive of the Welsh Development Agency, set up to proomte the re-generation of the economy in Wales, requires a highly efficient Private Secretary to help him while he sets up and then operates this new major enterprise.

First-class shorthand and typing and command of office routines are of course essential, but applicants must also have good presence and initiative, and be tactful, discreet and self-reliant. The Private Secretary will normally have regular hours but must be ready to work late when it is necessary.

The salary scale will be established within the range £2,900 to £3,700 according to the qualifications and experience of the person appointed and their ability to take on the full range of responsibility envisaged for the post. The job carries 4 5 weeks' annual leave in addition to public holidays.

Application forms, to be returned by 1st April, 1976 are obtainable from:
Personnel Division, Welsh Development Agency,
Treforest Industrial Estate.
Pontypridd. Mid Glamorgan CF37 5UT

Secretary for MD

c. £3,100 The Managing Director of Whitbread International is looking for an intelligent and responsible Secretary/PA. Previous experience at a senior level is important and you must be capable of working on your own initiative during his frequent absences. Please contact Wendy Townes, Whitbread & Co. Ltd., Chiswell Street, London EC1Y 4SD. Tel: 01-606 4455.

WHITBREAD

ADVERTISING IS HELL!

Even when you have smart offices in New Bond Street. Even when the people you work with are bright, bouncy and just plain nice. Even when the Agency is growing and has some big-name clients.

The problem is we're understaffed and overworked. And we reckon just one good secretary with excellent secretarial skills and bags of initiative could save us.

Do you exist? Will you be in time?

Find out by writing to **Pam Wright** at **Michael Robinson & Associates, 92 New Bond Street, W1Y 9LA**, giving full details of experience and personal background.

SECRETARY/P.A. TO ASSISTANT MANAGING DIRECTOR c £3,000

required by Assistant Managing Director of major subsidiary of National Brewery group, who is responsible, inter alia, for Finance and Administration. Interesting and varied responsibility for someone with at least 5 years' experience of working for a senior manager.

Apart from the normal high-grade secretarial skills, must also possess initiative and a good sense of humour. Offices near King's Cross and St. Pancras stations. An excellent range of fringe benefits apply.

Please telephone Mrs. M. J. Harrity, 01-278 2491

Car+£3,000

If you are flexible, friendly, and above all intelligent, you may enjoy working for our somewhat chaotic Accountant Entrepreneurial boss in the demanding capacity of Personal Assistant Secretary. (Must have excellent skills.) The offices in Fulham are modern and the atmosphere delightfully informal.

If you would like further details please ring GERALDINE 01-381 0586

BOOKKEEPER/PA

If you consider that you can cope with the demands of a top record production and music publishing outfit, working in very congenial surroundings.

please telephone Mr. Brown on 582 7622 for an appointment (10 a.m.-6 p.m)

Challoners Top Appointments Division

BRIGHT P.A. WITH REAL EXECUTIVE POTENTIAL

Key executive of major American owned management consultancy needs a really intelligent P.A. with sound secretarial skills to look after him & take over a wide range of research activities at his West End office. It's a responsible role with genuine executive possibilities for someone with an alert mind, sense of humour & an adaptable approach to her work. Starts at around £3,000.

For further details ring Joanna Knight Executive Consultant

19/23 Oxford Street London W1
01-437 9030

TOP SALARY FOR A GERMAN-SPEAKING SECRETARY

Here's your chance to make good use of fluent spoken German in an interesting and rewarding job with Gestetner. You'll need first-class typing and shorthand, etc. You should be aged at least 30 and used to responsibility in a commercial organisation. Experience in the export field would be helpful.

For details of a post with a very attractive salary and benefits, phone or write now to:

Miss E. N. Hawkins,
Gestetner Limited,
P O Box 466,
London, N17 9LT.
Tel: 01-808 1050.

SPRECHEN SIE DEUTSCH?

£3,000 p.a.

This post offers the opportunity for an intelligent Secretary, aged 22 plus, to use German which must be reasonably fluent. The company's international H.Q. is in Mayfair and the job content is varied and interesting in as much as shorthand typing would comprise only 50% of the job, the rest being spent in collating information plus some research into the international tour field. Essentially the successful applicant will be well spoken with commonsense and have an "O" level education. 4 weeks' holiday plus 30p L.V.'s per day are offered.

Please phone Joan Urwin on 01-499 3712.

ALBEMARLE APPOINTMENTS
31 Berkeley St., W.1.
01-499 3712

EARN UP TO £6,000 p.a.

As a Secretary in the delightful city of Brussels where your salary will enable you to enjoy the night-life, delicious food, a higher standard of living, travel around most of Europe AND save up to £1,000 in your first year.

If you are a Secretary (aged 20-30) with excellent skills, very good French, and want to get out of the rut, contact Simon Strong for more details at 174 New Bond Street, London, W.1.

or ring the number below.

International Secretaries
01-491 7105

IT'S ONLY ROCK AND ROLL . . .

Extrovert secretary to assist a guy who handles several U.S. based record labels. There's also the odd tie up with films and things. Ludicrous hours, lots of liaison with the States. Stars by the thousand. Quite tasty. Based in the West End. Salary's £3,000, 409 2608.

ACORN
10 MADDOX ST., W.1.

£3,200 ADMIN. ASST./SEC.

Oil Co. in W.1 requires intelligent person, 25-30, for varied, interesting position, involving Sec./Administrative, Sure Secretarial work. Must be capable of composing own correspondence.

Phone Dunlop & Badenoch (Agency)
25/26 Lime Street, E.C.3
01-623 3544/5/6

AUDIO SECRETARY

Reliable person, 26+, required by International firm of Management Consultants with pleasant offices in Berkeley Square. Salary neg. circa £2,800 p.a. + L.V.s.

Ring:
Barbara Gralle, 493 6801.

Copywriter/Production Asst.

American Travel Brochures

Opportunity to join small, highly professional, creative team, producing some of the best travel literature in the business, mainly for the U.S. market. Advertising and European travel background helpful. Knowledge of the American market and "American language" essential. The job involves copy, research and a helping hand with the production flow. Unique atmosphere in superb Marble Arch offices. Salary £4,000 to £6,000 depending on how good you are. Send a few things you're proud of and a letter about yourself to:

Mark Durchslag, Travellers Design, 10 Frederick Close, Stanhope Place, London, W.2

International Oil Company
SECRETARY

Pall Mall, SW1. c. £2,700

To fill an interesting position in our International Purchasing Department. Previous experience essential, with good shorthand typing and ability to work on own initiative. Salary c. £2,700 p.a., 60p LVs per day, 4 weeks' holiday and contributory pension scheme.

Please telephone or write with brief details to:

Miss L. Perkins,
AMOCO EUROPE INC.,
33 Cavendish Square,
London W1M 9HF.

AMOCO

INTERNATIONAL MERCHANT BANK

A well-known International Merchant Bank situated close to the Bank of England wishes to appoint a

Secretary for two Young Executives

Applicants should have a French and/or Spanish shorthand capability and a knowledge of other Latin languages would be an advantage.

Excellent working conditions in young and energetic atmosphere. Generous fringe benefits. A competitive salary would be negotiated at around £3,000.

Please telephone Mrs. Wenham
01-600 4585 Extension 263

GOOD KNOWLEDGE OF GERMAN ESSENTIAL

for P.A. (aged 20 to 30) to M.D. of young team of Packaging Consultants with bright and cheerful open-plan offices near Russell Square/Euston.

Varied, interesting work meeting clients: SOME TRAVEL TO GERMANY. SALARY £2,900 and subsidized lunches (plus lots of healthy salads!).

TO FIND OUT MORE ABOUT US PLEASE RING SANDRA KEAN, 01-837 5207.

SECRETARY

We are an Investment Bank in the City

and are looking for a Secretary to work for an Executive Director and a Corporate Finance Executive. Aged over 23, you must have good shorthand and typing speeds, be able to cope under pressure, and have a good telephone manner. In return for these qualifications, we offer a good salary and excellent fringe benefits.

Please contact Miss Hopkins on 283 4200

M&J PERSONNEL

A Bit of Flair . . .

"Competence, diplomacy, good with people" are the qualities needed to be P.A. (audio and typing as well) to Admin. Partner of City Stockbrokers. Lots of variety. 25-35. To £3,200 basic plus worthwhile bonus. Ring Matilda MacIntyre, 588 0174.

Disorganized Managing Director needs assistance from a P.A. Secretary with conversational French, slow shorthand but superb typing. City based. It pays £3,000, 24 plus.

Ring Eunice Gibbs, 588 0174.

MOVE UP THE EXECUTIVE LADDER TO £3,500

Chairman of major stores Group needs an experienced senior Secretary for interesting post with plenty of executive level responsibilities. Involves working closely with him and one other.

Ring: Mrs. Salem,
CHALLONERS,
45 London Wall, E.C.2.
01-638 9231

National Institute for Social Work
SENIOR SECRETARY

Required for the Institute's lively and friendly Research Unit. Ability to take administrative responsibility, accuracy essential and an interest in the social services desirable.

Salary on scale £2,790 to £3,255 p.a. L.V.s 25p, 4 weeks' leave, plus 1 week at Christmas and Easter, superannuation.

Enquiries are welcomed by the Unit's Director, Miss E. M. Goldberg.

Telephone for an application form to Mrs. Warren, 01-387 9681.

PA/SECRETARY to M.D.
W.1.

somebody who can organize a disorganized M.D. to work in the financial department of an Investment Bank, and to take charge when the M.D. is away . . . which is often. French is useful. £3,000+, 25-ish. Ring Julie Laycock, Special Appointments Division of ADventure 629 5747.

EXPERIENCED BILINGUAL SECRETARY

with fluent French (English mother-tongue) required to work for General Manager of small, friendly engineering company based at present in S.W.1 but moving in 4 months to brand new premises in South Ruislip. Top salary offered.

For further details telephone the General Manager, Babbitless, 01-222 3041.

SOLICITOR £3,000+

Efficient and intelligent Secretary (minimum age 25) to work for Senior Partner. Must have legal experience and have worked at Executive level.

For further details of this and other interesting vacancies contact

ANNE SUTHERLAND
MARGERY HURST CENTRE
44 BOW LANE, E.C.4
01-248 0331

WE SPECIALIZE IN CITY APPOINTMENTS

M&J PERSONNEL
YOUNG IDEAS

International company in W.1 needs Sec./P.A., 21+, to work for Public Relations Officer. Public Relations experience useful. Salary £2,850.

Stockbroking organisation in W.1 needs 3 bright, alert Sec./P.A.'s, 22+ (one with audio). Salaries to £3,500.

NOTE we are open until 7.30 this evening to receive your calls on 836 4757.

AMBITIOUS SECRETARY £3,000 p.a.

Mayfair Commercial Estate Agents with 3 partners in fast-growing firm require two secretaries able to work on own initiative and deal with clients. The right people will have a flair for organization, good telephone manner and probably some legal property experience. Shorthand not essential. Salary up to £3,000 p.a.

Phone Robert Spooner
01-499 5221

SUPER SECRETARY/P.A.

to Managing Director of Co. in Chelsea. 25+. IBM Exec. typewriter, dictaphone. Shorthand not essential. Able to drive. Excellent salary + L.V.s.

Ring Annie on
351 0193

SECRETARY/PA TO CHAIRMAN OF UK/USA GROUP

Job also involves handling Press Releases. Exacting, fast pace, not for the faint-hearted, with much time spent in USA. Starting salary up to £3,000.

Phone Judy Giddings at Byfleet 41131 for details.

Personal Secretary/Assistant

for small Public Relations Consultancy at Victoria. Fast and accurate typing essential. Excellent salary for the right person.

01-730 9922

SECRETARY

£2,700-£3,100

to assist our Superintendent Engineer who has a staff of 70 and to assume responsibility for the day to day running of our Maintenance Department Office.

Age 30+, with shorthand. Elementary book-keeping useful. L.V's. Four weeks' holiday. Pension scheme.

Telephone Miss S. M. Hurley

IMPERIAL CANCER RESEARCH FUND
Lincoln's Inn Fields, W.C.2
on 242 0200 ext. 305

SECRETARY TO MANAGING DIRECTOR

Hounslow — Salary negotiable

Solus Schall is a substantial and fast growing service company to the worldwide oil and gas industry.

The successful applicant will be involved in a dynamic situation dealing with our clients and managers throughout the U.K. and the many overseas territories where we operate.

A good shorthand speed is essential, together with the ability and initiative to deal with correspondence in the absence of the Managing Director.

The position carries a generous salary, appropriate to the demands of the job. Our offices are centrally situated, convenient to all shops, buses and Hounslow Central tube station (Piccadilly line).

Please apply with brief details of your experience to Garry Ross, Personnel Manager, Solus Schall, Annabelle House, 28 Staines Road, Hounslow, Middlesex, or telephone 01-572 3451, ext. 32.

A . . . . with a sense of humour

and style will be more than appreciated by an international financial and industrial adviser, running a small office in the Albany. Really high grade secretarial skills to boardroom level, are essential as starters. In addition the right applicant will live in London and will enjoy working at high pressure within routine hours. Perks—theatre, cultural and artistic introductions. Salary only negotiable with suitably qualified applicant.

Telephone: SANDRA AMEY, 836 8173

NEW OFFICES IN N.W.5
£3,000 plus 20% staff discount

PERSONAL ASSISTANT, 20-30 years, for Marketing Director of Retail Chemist Group. The right person will be intelligent, efficient and enthusiastic and with secretarial skills.

PHONE MISS CAIN, 01-589 5551

MAYFAIR
PA/SECRETARY

(Preferred age over 25) required for Marketing Manager of an International Company with architectural and property interests. Will assist him and participate in client contact as well as the secretarial standards. An attractive personality and initiative are required for this essential position. Salary negotiable.

PLEASE WRITE OR TELEPHONE MRS. TERESA ANDERSON,
SOLAGLAS U.K. LTD.,
19 GROSVENOR STREET, LONDON, W.1.
TEL. 01-493 6336.

Secretary/Personal Assistant

Top line secretary required for chairman of West End company. His secretary is also responsible for organising balls, concerts, etc., for charity and must be able to attend these functions.

Secretaries who feel qualified to handle this interesting and demanding job and who can justify a salary of £5,000 p.a. negotiable should telephone 629 1812 or call at

THE MARGERY HURST CENTRE
47 Davies Street, W.1.

CLIENT SERVICE REPRESENTATIVE
£3,000+

A career opportunity—directing people and creating good customer relations—is offered by a large international consultancy group, based in W.1. Visiting clients in the West End and City areas, dealing with people at all levels. Full training given, but similar or sales background essential. Interested? Then phone Eileen Anderson for further information.

DRAKE PERSONNEL
734 0911
225 REGENT ST., W.1.

PUBLISHING

Secretary/Assistant to Production Manager working on Children's Illustrated Books. Must be accurate typist and have a keen eye for detail. Good telephone manner and ability to assume responsibility essential. Salary, depending on experience, negotiable up to £3,000.

Telephone Gail Rebuck
GRISEWOOD & DEMPSEY LTD.
01-251 0823

S.W.3.
SECRETARY, SOLE CHARGE

for Banking Company. Preferably able to read Spanish. Some accounting work. Hours 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Age 25+. £3,000.

PHONE 01-589 9384

BI-LINGUAL SECRETARY

to work for charming young German Lawyer in American firm next St. Paul's Underground. Work varied and interesting with some administration.

SALARY £3,100 WITH L.V.S AND BONUS.

TELEPHONE 01-236 2401.

SECRETARY/P.A.

to Director of a firm of Chartered Loss Adjusters in EC2 area. Good shorthand-typing skills required. Interesting and varied work for person willing to accept responsibility.

Salary up to £3,000 + LVs.
Telephone: L. F. Sear
638 9481

DYNAMIC PA

urgently needed for M.D. of educational company in W.10. Good skills, of course, but selling & organising ability vital. If you want an exciting and involving job plus £3,000 p.a. ring:

Mrs Gibbs, 602 5922

ANDALUCIA!

EUROPEAN MARKETING DIRECTOR of well known Sherry exporters in Jerez requires bi-lingual secretary with fluent SPANISH, accurate English shorthand and good business experience. The candidate selected will be intelligent, mature, and have sufficient savoir-faire to enable her to adapt well to a new environment. Salary in the region of 300,000 pesetas p.a. NET.

MULTILINGUAL SERVICES
22 Charing Cross Road, W.C.2
836 3794/5

VERY EXPERIENCED SECRETARY

for busy 4-person editorial department of international fashion publication. Age 28+, ideally eight . . . English Language, English Literature, French and Latin and three "A"s including English or Languages. Shorthand speed 120 w.p.m., typing 75 w.p.m. Ability to plan schedules, oversee production, work against deadlines; important to have great degree of responsibility, an eye for detail and calm personality. Salary negotiable c. £3,500. Write with full details in confidence to

C. Macfarlane,
24A New Quebec Street,
London, W.1.

ARE YOU ONE IN A THOUSAND

Exclusive leather goods shop, West End, requires smart, attractive, fashion conscious person, 25-30-ish, with proven retail sales experience to coordinate day to day running of shop. You must be used to responsibility and have a flair for display. It's essential to be able to communicate with all types of shoppers and you'll need lots of enthusiasm and go. In return you'll get a good salary, + commission and 3 weeks holiday.

Apply
MR HOWARD BLENFORDS
83 Wigmore St. 935 0149

WEST NORWOOD TO £3,000

Senior Secretary required by Marketing Manager at top Company.

LISTEN ONLY ON 493 2905
DON'T SPEAK

ASSISTANT PRESS OFF[ICER]

We have a new position in our Public Relations Department for an Assistant Press Officer. If you know the cosmetics industry as competitive as cosmetics and you have had sufficient public relations experience to enable you to maintain a press office and also undertake writing oriented press releases, please write for further information.

Mrs. Joan Leslie, Personnel Manager,
MAX FACTOR LTD.,
16 Old Bond Street, London, W.1. Tel: [illegible]

Meat and Livestock Commission
Secretary/Personal Assistant

To work for Director of Meat Promotion area. Must be fully experienced in advertising/Public Relations background; shorthand and typing speeds essential to deal with people at high level. Salary [illegible] annum.

Telephone 0908 74941 ext. 324.

EXECUTIVE SECRET[ARY]
TO THE FINANCIAL VICE PRESIDENT, TREASURER

[illegible]

Please ring Jane Vokes, 01-734 [illegible]

Administrative Assist[ant]

[illegible]

C.V. and availability to The Secretary, C.E.I. [illegible] Street, London SW1P 3DL, in an envelope marked Confidential (A A)

SECRETARY/ADMINISTRAT[OR]
£3,000 NEG.

The London based Promotional office of International (near Bond Street station) is looking for P.A./S. 25-30. The suitable person must be capable of handling day-to-day responsibilities. Good skills (100/60) and also able to use a Telex.

For further details of this most interesting position Mary Day on 491 7441.

THORNHILL MARY STUART BUREAU

BOOKKEEPER ACCOUNTANT

required for

BROWN'S FASHION STORE, W.1

Fully experienced person up to trial balance. V.A.T., P.A.Y.E., for busy accounts department. Excellent salary, negotiable. L.V.s, staff discount. Modern office.

Telephone 491 7833

THE CITY UNI[VERSITY]
SECRET[ARY]

[illegible]

Applications from . . . The Personnel . . . John Street, London . . . Tel. 253 4399, ext. [illegible]

SECRETARY

required for
PROPERTY DIRECTOR

of leading Fashion Retail Group. New headquarters with all modern facilities near Hanover Lane Central Line. First class shorthand and typing essential. Salary range up to £3,000 p.a. Age [illegible]

Box 2702 S, The Times

£3,200

for Secretary/P.A. [illegible] hand to the [illegible] of West End [illegible]

SECRETAR[IES] 15, New [illegible]

Secretarial and Non-secretarial Appointments also on page 12

NON-SECRETARIAL

PART TIME NEGOTIATOR required for small firm of Chartered Surveyors. No previous experience necessary but energetic young person interested in selling houses and flats preferred. Car owner essential. Living within 15 mins of W.1. Phone Murray, [illegible]

RECEPTION.—Modern Dental Practice Central London needs kind person to receive patients. [illegible] week. [illegible] Please telephone [illegible]

SALARIES CLERK. Computerised, W.1. £2,750 p.a. Stella Fisher Bureau, 110 Strand, W.C.2. 01-836 6644.

SUPER POSITION for attractive Sales orientated person 20-30, age 24 years, in [illegible] Health Centre, Kensington. Excellent salary for right person. Tel. [illegible]

PUBLISHING.—See Assistant. Up to £3,000. See [illegible]

MAYFAIR. Experienced Assistant for super boutique [illegible] hairdressing, clothing allowance. £40 p.w. Tel. [illegible]

PERFECTIONIST [illegible] Typist for Professional Association near Baker St. Hours flexible. Terms by arrangement. Phone [illegible] 1501.

A YOUNG RECEPTIONIST required [illegible] Dental practice [illegible] required. Good working conditions [illegible] March 22nd. 01-[illegible]

TRAVEL CO. has a [illegible] for someone who [illegible] a friendly [illegible] holiday [illegible] bonus [illegible] Bruton Street [illegible]

ADAPTABLE [illegible] as Assistant [illegible] country house [illegible] with reputation [illegible] April-October [illegible]

£2,600 is offered [illegible]

ALGERIA. [illegible]

MANAGER [illegible] GIRL'S [illegible] Superb opportunity [illegible] join this [illegible] pany.—[illegible]

MAKE MORE OF YOUR LIFE IN A WEL[L]
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(continued on page 28)

...lcasting

...goes to the dogs (BBC1 9.50) and the ice rink (BBC1 9.25). It also takes ...-like look at video art (BBC2 8.25). There is a second chance to see a ...ary series on the fight against disease, starting with Ignaz Semmelweis ...work to prevent puerperal fever (BBC2 10.20). But do you find the humour ...n Potter a tonic? If you do, a new series is prescribed in which Richard ...ter Jones and others will first instruct you on oneupmanship in matters of ...BC2 9.45). A late-night documentary concentrates on a Pakistani leader in (ITV 10.30).—L.B.

University: Crys... Cells of ...5-11.00, You and ...n, News. 1.00, ... 1.45, Teddy ...00, The Mister ... and Night. 4.00, ... 4.25, Deputy ...ackanory. 4.45, ...5, John Craven. ...O'Rourke. 5.40, ...h. ...00, Nationwide. ... Lisbon (1957), ... Ray Milland, ... O'Hara, Claude ... Yvonne Fur... ...be and Wise ... ...iety, highlights ...la by amateur ... ...ght. The Grey... ...V Trophy. ...ather.

...s (BBC 1): ...15-6.35 pm. ... 5.35-5.45, The ...45, Wales Today. ...15-7.15, Heddiw. ... Cwm. 7.45- ...and Son. 11.20, ...D: 6.00-6.45 pm, ...and. Nationwide. NORTHERN IRELAND: ...pm, Scene Around ...10.45-11.15, Sport...

...2.30 pm, Byegones. ...5, West Headlines. Headlines. 1.30, Houseparty. 2.30, ...able. 5.25, Crossroads. ...ws. 6.01, Report ...port Wales. 6.30, ... Thames. 11.55. CYMRU/WALES.— ... 1.20-1.25 pm, ...ddion Y Dydd. ...ddau. 6.01-6.15, ...r Hen A'r Newydd ... 11.05-11.25, O'r ...ST.—As HTV except: ...n, West Headlines. ...t West.

...20 pm, Westward ... 1.30, Thames. ...e. 5.50, News. ... Diary. 6.35, Westward News. ...ue.

... 1.25 pm, Anglia ...mes. 2.00, Houseparty. ...nes. 5.20, Hogan's ...ows. 6.00, About ...ames. 11.55, The ...

BBC 2

6.40 am, Open University. Twentieth century poetry. 7.05, Philosophy. 7.30-7.55, Frank Lloyd Wright. 10.35, Nai Zindagi Naya Jeevan. 11.00-11.25, Play School. 5.25, Open University. 5.25, Maths. 5.50, Roots of Equations. 6.15, Odilon Redon. 6.40, The Historian at Work. 7.05, On Union Business.
7.30 Newsday.
8.00 Gardeners' World.
8.25 Arena: The work of artists who use video.
9.00 Nana Mouskouri.
9.45 One-upmanship (new series).
10.20 Microbes and Men. Part 1: The Invisible Enemy.
11.15 Newsnight.
11.30-11.35 Paul Scofield reads Mythistorema (part 4) from Argonauts, by George Seferis, translated by Rex Warner.

Granada

12.00, Thames. 1.20 pm, This Is Your Right. 1.30, Thames. 5.15, Take Kerr. 5.20, Crossroads. 5.50, News. 6.00, Granada Reports. 6.30, University Challenge. 7.00, Thames. 11.25, What the Papers Say. 11.45-12.15 am, Professional Wrestling.

Yorkshire

12.00 pm, Thames. 12.30, Mum's the Word. 1.00, News. 1.20, Calendar News. 1.30, Thames. 5.20, Calendar. 5.50, News. 6.00, Calendar. 6.35-11.55, Thames.

Border:
12.00 pm, Thames. 12.30, Untamed World. 1.00, News. 1.20, Border News. 1.30, Thames. 5.20, Supersonic. 5.50, News. 6.00, Border News. 6.35, Thames. 12.05 am, Border News.

Grampian

12.00 pm, Thames. 1.20, Grampian News Headlines. 1.30, Thames. 5.20, Thrillseekers. 5.45, Police News. 5.50, News. 6.00, Grampian Today. 6.35, Thames. 11.55, Prayers.

Tyne Tees

12.00, Thames. 2.00 pm, Women Only. 2.30, Thames. 5.20, Today. 5.50, News. 6.00, Today. 6.35, Thames. 11.25, Chess Masterpieces. 11.35, Epilogue.

Ulster

12.00, Thames. 1.20 pm, Ulster News Headlines. 1.30, Thames. 5.20, Out of Town. 5.50, News. 6.00, UTV Reports. 6.35-11.55, Thames.

Thames

12.00, Rupert Bear. 12.10 pm, Rainbow. 12.30, Mr and Mrs. 1.00, News. 1.20, Lunchtime Today. 1.30, Crown Court. 2.00, Good Afternoon. 2.30, Couples. 3.00, About Britain. 3.25, That Song Again. 3.55, General Hospital. 4.25, How. 4.50, The Tomorrow People. 5.20, The Flintstones.
5.50 News. 6.00, Today.
6.35 Crossroads.
7.00 This Is Your Life.
7.30 Coronation Street.
8.00 Man About the House.
8.30 Up the Workers.
9.00 Sez Les.
10.00 News.
10.30 The Bradford Godfather: Documentary.
11.25 Professional Wrestling.
11.55 What the Papers Say.
12.10-12.20 am, Visions of the Spirit: The Dean of Guildford.

ATV

12.00, Thames. 1.20 pm, ATV News. 1.30, Thames. 5.20, ATV Today. 5.50, News. 6.00, ATV Today. 6.35-11.55, Thames.

Southern

12.00, Thames. 1.20 pm, Southern News. 1.30, Thames. 2.00, Houseparty. 2.30, Thames. 5.20, All Fowled Up. 5.25, Crossroads. 5.50, News. 6.00, Day By Day. 7.00, Thames. 11.55, Southern News. 12.05 am, Weather. Guideline.

Scottish

12.00, Thames. 1.25 pm, Road Report. 1.30, Thames. 2.00, Housecall. 2.30, Thames. 5.20, The Bark Family. 5.25, Crossroads. 5.50, News. 6.00, Scotland Today. 6.30, The White Line. 7.00, Thames. 11.55, Late Call.

Radio

1
6.00 am, News. Colin Berry.† 7.00, Noel Edmonds. 9.00, Paul Burnett. 12.00, Johnnie Walker. 2.02 pm, David Hamilton.† 4.30, DLT. 5.45, Newsbeat. 6.02, Sam Costa.† 6.45, Sports Desk. 7.02, Pros and Cons. 7.30, The Great American Railroad. 8.02, All Time Hit Parade.† 9.30, Sing Something Simple.† 10.02, Sports Desk. 10.05, Command Performance.† 11.00, John Peel.† 12.00-12.05 am, News.
† Stereo.

2
6.00 am, Radio 1. 7.02, Terry Wogan. (8.27, Racing bulletin.) 9.02, Pete Murray.† (10.30, Waggoners' Walk.) 11.30, Jimmy Young.† 2.02 pm, Radio 1. 4.30, Waggoners' Walk. 4.45, Sports Desk. 4.47, Sam Costa.† 6.45, Radio 1. 11.02, Jean Challis (1,500m). 12.00-12.05 am, News.

3
7.00 am, News. 7.05, Your Midweek Choice: Arne, Hummel, Schubert.† 8.00, News. 8.05, Your Midweek Choice, part 2: Giovanni Battista Sammartini, Palestrina, Bach.† 9.00, News. 9.05, Tippett.† 9.40, String Quartets: Richard Meale, Debussy.† 10.35, St David's Music Week, part 1: Tallis, Bach, Byrd.† 11.35, Words: Eleanor Bron. 11.40, Concert, part 2: Grace Williams, Mathias, Elgar.† 12.15 pm, Prague Spring Festival 1975: Tchaikovsky.† 1.00, News. 1.05, Concert: Handel, Van Eyck, Telemann, Henning, Christiansen, Berio, Vivaldi.† 2.00, Royal Repertoire: Meyerbeer, arr Constant Lambert, Poulenc.† 3.15, Piano recital: Mozart.† 3.40, St David's Music Week 1976: Alun Hoddinott, William Mathias, Daniel Jones.† 5.00, Choral Evensong from Llandaff Cathedral. 5.45, Homeward Bound. 6.05, News. 6.10, Homeward Bound (continued). 6.30, Wegweiser. 7.00, Ensemble. 7.30, Piano recital: Chopin.† 8.00, Royal Philharmonic Society concert, part 1: Debussy, Bloch.† 8.50, The Arts Worldwide. 9.10, Concert, part 2: Beethoven.† 9.55, Scientifically Speaking: The behavioural system. 10.30, Duet recital: Dvorak, Brahms.† 11.25-11.30, News.

4
6.20 am, News. 6.22, Farming. 6.40, Prayer. 6.45, Today. 7.00, News and more of Today. 8.00, News and more of Today. 8.45, Yesterday in Parliament. 9.00, News. 9.05, The Living World. 9.35, Finger on the Pulse. 10.00, News. 10.05, In Britain Now. 10.30, Service. 10.45, Story. 11.00, News. 11.05, Sweet Songs of Zion. 11.30, Play: Samson Enterprises. 12.00, News. 12.02 pm You and Yours. 12.27, Brain of Britain. 12.55, Weather.
1.00 pm, News. 1.30, The Archers. 1.45, Woman's Hour. 2.45, Listen with Mother. 3.00, News. 3.05, Play: Whistling Wally. 4.00, News. 4.05, The Devoices: The Baker Street Regulars. 4.35, Story: Death on the Nile. 5.00, PM Reports. 5.55, Weather.
6.00, News. 6.15, Oh, Get on with It. 6.45, The Archers. 7.00, News. 7.30, It's Your Line: 01-580 4411. Our and Our Allies' Defences, with Laurence Martin. 8.30, Poetry Prom, The Soldier's life in peace and war. 9.30, Kaleidoscope. 9.59, Weather. 10.00, News. 10.45, A Book at Bedtime: The Stone Angel. 11.00, The Financial World Tonight. 11.15, Today in Parliament. 11.30, News. 11.51-11.54, Inshore Forecast.

BBC Radio London, local and national news, entertainment, sport, music. 94.9 VHF, 206 M.

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PLEASE CHECK YOUR AD. We make every effort to avoid errors in advertisements. Each one is carefully checked and proof read. When thousands of advertisements are handled each day mistakes do occur and we ask therefore that you check your ad and, if you spot an error, report it to the Classified Queries department immediately by telephoning 01-837 1234 (Ext. 7180). We regret that we cannot be responsible for more than one day's incorrect insertion if you do not.

". . . thou, O Lord, art in the midst of us, and we are called by thy name; leave us not."—Jeremiah 14 : 9.

BIRTHS

BARROW.—On 5th March, at Westminster hospital, to Patricia and Robert—a daughter (Alexandra Louise).

BUCK.—On 9th March, 1976, at Guildford Hospital, to Penelope (née Berg) and Graham, a daughter, Naomi—a sister for Matthew.

CORRY REID.—To Susannah and Michael, at the Westminster Hospital, on 8th March—a daughter.

COYNE.—On March 8 to Pamela (née Richards) and Charles Coyne—a daughter (Karen Patricia).

EVANS.—On March 9th at the North Stafford Maternity Hospital, Newcastle-under-Lyme, to Kate (née Stott) and Philip, a son.

HOLLOWAY.—On March 7th at Amersham Hospital to Rosemary (née Cory) and Paul Holloway—a son (Charles Alistair), a brother for James.

JOHNSTON. — On March 7 at Bicester Hospital to Jilly (née Murphy) and Johnny—a daughter (Amy).

NOEL-JOHNSON.—On March 8th, at King's College Hospital, London, to Caroline (née Pelit) and Chris Noel-Johnson—a son (Charles Anthony).

SOSA BASUALDO.—On 9th March to Lucy (née Pearson) wife of Luis So a Basualdo, 130 East 65th Street, New York, NY 10021—a son.

TINNE.—On March 1st, to Posie and Nick, of Castleknock, County Dublin—a son (Edward).

WARD.—On Monday, 8th March, at King's College Hospital, to Lynne (née Glicker) and Michael, a son (Timothy Joseph).

MARRIAGES

HOLT : MACLEOD.—On 6th March at Christ Church United Reformed Church, Wallington, Jack Holt, of Eastbourne, to Helen Margaret Macleod, of Croydon.

KNOTT : TETLOW.—On 6th March, 1976, at Holy Trinity Church, Leamington Spa, Philip, only son of Mr. and Mrs. Knott, of 26 Hillside Road, Grange, West Kirby, to Elizabeth, youngest daughter of Dr. and Mrs. C. Tetlow, of 92 Northumberland Road, Leamington Spa.

SEYMOUR : STURGE.—On March 5th in London, Geoffrey Bishop Seymour to Susan Amanda Sturge.

DEATHS

ADAMS.—On March 8th, 1976, William Somerville, of Hotel Stuart, Richmond. Funeral service at Wateringbury Parish Church, Kent, Friday, 12th March, at 3.15 p.m. Flowers to G. B. Benfield, Wateringbury, Kent.

BARNES.—On March 5th peacefully in hospital, Robert James Barnes, husband of Olive and nephew of the late Robert and Mabel Staley, of Treeton, Rotherham, Yorkshire. Funeral private. No flowers.

BEXON.—On 7th March, Nora Hope, aged 70 years, of Stoneways, 32 Amersham Road, High Wycombe. Funeral service 12.30 p.m. Friday, 12th March, at the Chilterns Crematorium, Amersham. Flowers to David Silvey & Son, Westbourne Street, High Wycombe.

BROOKS, ELLEN NORA MARY.—On 6th March, 1976, widow of David Brooks, of 34B Devonshire Close, W.1. Formerly of Chesterfield.

BUZZARD.—On March 9th, 1976, after a long illness, borne with great courage, Edward Miles Buzzard, F.R.C.P. Beloved husband of Sylvia and much loved father of Sally, Judy, Anne and David. Funeral private. Memorial service to be announced later. No flowers, please, by request, but donations to the Renal Unit and the Churchill Hospital, Oxford.

CAMOYS.—On Tuesday, March 9th, at the Dower House, Stonor, Ralph Robert Watts Sherman Stonor 6th Baron Camoys, beloved husband of Jeanne. Fortified by the Rites of the Church. Funeral arrangements to be announced later.

CLEGG.—On March 5, 1976, at Falmouth, Marian Jessie Clegg, of 7 Marion Close, Cambridge, formerly of 240 Hills Road, Cambridge. Cremation private in Cambridge.

CORMACK.—On March 8th, at Oxford, Una Mary, aged 92, widow of the late James Ross Cormack. R.I.P.

COURTIER.—On February 23rd, 1976, suddenly, Victor Norman, formerly of Wimbledon and of Merton Park. A beloved husband, father and grandfather. Cremation private.

DAUKES.—On March 5th, peacefully, in his sleep, in hospital, Archie Herbert, aged 86. Dearly loved husband of the late Madge, brother of the late Sir Clendon Daukes and uncle of John, Tony and Geoffrey. Funeral Cley Church, Norfolk, 2.30 p.m., Wednesday, 10th March. Flowers to Sutton, Freeman St, Wells. Committal Brompton Cemetery at 12.15, Friday, 12th March.

de ROTHSCHILD.—On 8th March, 1976, at Santa Barbara, California, Baronne Philippe de Rothschild (née Pauline Fairfax-Potter). This notice appears on behalf of Baron Philippe de Rothschild, Mr. and Mrs. Jacques Sereys and their children.

DUNDAS.—On 6th March, at the Radcliffe Infirmary, Flora widow of James (late of the Nigerian Forest Department) and mother of Janet. Funeral at 11.15, on Saturday 13th March, at All Saints Church, Wytham, nr Oxford. No flowers please, donations may be sent to Shelter or Family Service Units, 207, Old Marylebone Rd., N.W.1.

GLOVER.—On March 9th, 1976, peacefully, at his home, Farway, Roselands, Sidmouth, Maurice Herbert, aged 82 years. Husband of the late Doreen Glover. Funeral service at Sidmouth Parish Church on Monday, March 15th, at 2.30 p.m., followed by cremation at Exeter.

GREEN.—On March 9th, 1976, peacefully, Bessie. Deeply mourned by her loving children Joseph and Irene (Peskin) and their families. Prayers, Wednesday night only, 39 North Gate, N.W.8.

HAGGARD.—On 6th March, 1976, as the result of an accident, Andrew of Ankerdine, Ledbury, in his 84th year, late of Hill Top Fruit Farm. Private cremation on March 12th. Memorial service, Ledbury Parish Church, Saturday, March 27th at 2.30 p.m.

HANNA.—On 7th March, Kathleen Ethel Madeline (née Grey), widower of Col. W. J. Hanna, M.C., R.E., and mother of Rosemary and Patricia. Formerly of Speen, Newbury, Berks. All inquiries to A. Bennett, 120 High St., Brentwood. Telephone 210104.

HINDLE.—On March 8th, 1976, peacefully at home, in her 88th year, Anne Dorothy Hindle, M.B.E., co-founder of Benenden School, Kent, daughter of the late Thomas Henry Hindle, of Natal, South Africa. Private cremation. No flowers or letters, please, date of thanksgiving service at Benenden Church to be announced later.

KAY.—On March 6th, 1976, peacefully in hospital, Geoffrey E. G., aged 67, of Horsham, Sussex, late Principal of Overseas Trade Development Department, Westminster Bank, loved husband of Joyce, dear father of Jean, John, Barbara and Peter, and grandpa of seven; dear brother of Cicely Williams.

KIRKLAND.—On March 6th, 1976, at Cheltenham, Major John Wallace Cleland Kirkland, late the Gloucestershire Regiment, husband of Stella and father of Ann and John. Funeral Service at Cheltenham Crematorium Chapel on Monday, March 15th at 12.30 p.m. Cut flowers may be sent to Selim Smith & Co., Southwood Lodge, Prestbury Rd., Cheltenham.

LEINSTER.—On 7th March, 1976, in hospital after a short illness, Ronald Styan Leinster, much loved husband of Sheila and father of Colin and Stephen. Funeral service at Golders Green Crematorium in the West Chapel at 2.30 p.m. on March 11th. No flowers, please. Enquiries to J. H. Kenyon Ltd., 01-723 3277.

LEINSTER.—On March 8 in London, aged 83, Edward Fitzgerald, 7th Duke of Leinster. Funeral private.

LINDSAY.—On 9th March, 1976, at Royal Infirmary, Edinburgh, Maysie Elizabeth, of 39 Dick Place, Edinburgh. Beloved wife of the late Ian G. Lindsay. Funeral service at St. Cuthberts Parish Church, Kings Stables Road, Edinburgh, on Friday, 12th March, at 2.30 p.m. Cremation thereafter private. Family flowers only, please.

MACLENNAN.—On 8th March 1976, John, aged 78, late of The Chartered Bank. Husband of the late Peggie and dear father of Iain and grandfather of John and Caroline. Funeral service at St. John's Crematorium, Woking, Surrey, on Friday, 12th March at 3 p.m. Flowers and enquiries to Cyril H. Lovegrove, 32 Guildford Road, Woking, Surrey.

MARTIN.—On 9th March, at Plextol Nursing Home, Kent, Mabel Fanny Martin, widow of W. H. (Billy) Martin and much loved sister, mother, mother-in-law and grandmother. Funeral private, by request. No flowers, please, but donations if desired to National Library of the Blind, 35 Great Smith St., S.W.1.

MILNE.—On March 8th, peacefully in hospital, Alec Douglas Johnstone of 61 Winsley Road, Bradford-on-Avon. Donations please in lieu of flowers for Christian Aid c/o Lloyds Bank Ltd., Bradford-on-Avon. Enquiries, H. S. Bowyer & Son Ltd.

MORTON.—On 8th March, Brigadier-General, Ronald Edward Alfred, D.S.O., L.E.G., D'Hon., of Toronto, Canada.

MOSLEY.—On 8th March 1976, at Mapperley, Eric, dear husband of Moira, father of James, Paul, Hugh, Catherine and Francis.

OSBORNE.—On March 5th, 1976, in hospital, the Rev. H. Osborne of South China, and St. Christopher's Home, Hongkong, aged 68 years (retired). Funeral service St. Andrew's Church, Bebington, Wirral, Friday, March 12th, 1.15 p.m.

PARRY EVANS.—On March 8th 1976, Evan Parry Evans, M.D., J.P., in his 96th year, dear husband of Lilian, and father of Mary, of 42 Heol Isaf, Radyr, Cardiff.

PIKE, JOHN EDWIN, of 3 Laws St., Hamilton, Brisbane, Australia (formerly 466 Squadron), passed away Brisbane, 1st March, 1976.

POLITI.—On March 9th in his 85th year, Joseph Ben-Zion, Chairman D. Politi and Sons Ltd. Dear father of Tina Colover and Dodo Waggott. Interment Spanish and Portuguese Jews cemetery, Hoop Lane, N.W.11, 3 p.m. Wednesday, March 10th.

RAIKES.—On March 8th 1976, peacefully at her home, Hen Ysgol, Llangasty, Brecon, aged 87, Dorothy Taunton, youngest daughter of the late Robert Taunton Raikes, of Treberfydd. Funeral at Llangasty Church, Friday, March 12th, at 2.30 p.m.

RODDA.—On Monday, 8th March, at his home, 20 Darlington Road, Long Rock, Penzance, Cornwall, Sidney, B.Sc., S.Insit.P., aged 70 years. Late of Praze. Loving husband of Kay, loving father of Elizabeth and Chris, grandad of Rachael and father-in-law of Richard.

ROSE.—On March 6th, 1976, in hospital at Haywards Heath, Montague John, of Lingfield, beloved father of Yvonne and David Rose. Service at St. Nicholas Church, Saltdean, on Friday, March 12th, at 11.45 am, followed by cremation at The Downs Crematorium, Bear Road, Brighton at 12.15 pm. Flowers may be sent to Hanningtons, 4-6 Montefiore Road, Hove.

RUMSEY.—On March 8th, suddenly at Colchester, Squadron Leader Jack Montague Rumsey, husband of Diana and father of Janet and Susan. No letters. Memorial service to be announced later.

SILLERY.—On 5th March, 1976, suddenly in Oxford, Anthony Sillery aged 72, most dearly loved husband of Valentine and father of Christina and Anthea. Private cremation followed by service at St. Giles Church, Oxford, at 10.30 a.m. on Friday, March 12th. No flowers but donations if desired to the World Wild Life Fund.

TRAYLEN.—On March 8th, Elsie Louise (known as Fan), beloved mother of Ningle Ball, of Latchmore House, West Common, Gerrards Cross. Funeral service at Fulmer Parish Church, on Tuesday, March 16th, at 2.30 p.m.

TURING, ETHEL SARA.—On March 6th, 1976, peacefully, at Steyning, Sussex, born 18th November, 1881, widow of Julius Matheson Turing (I.C.S.). Body to be received at St. Nicholas Church, Guildford at 2.45 p.m. on Wednesday, 10th March, 1976. Solemn requiem on same day at 8 p.m. Requiem and burial office at 11.00 a.m. on the following day at the same church. No flowers. R.I.P.

TURP.—On March 9th, Bertram, Royal Victorian Medal, in his 91st year, late Farrier Sergeant 1st Royal Dragoons. A true gentleman. D.N.A.

VAUX. — On Monday, March 8, peacefully, at Baldersby Park, Margaret Helen, aged 76, of Beech House, Carlton Husthwaite, Thirsk, Yorkshire. Funeral at Carlton Husthwaite, Friday, March 12 at 11 a.m.

WELLS-COLE.—On 7th March 1976, Michael, aged 32, beloved son of Peter and Daphne Wells-Cole, 309 Yarborough Road, Lincoln, brother of Anthony, grandson of Dorothy Newbury. Funeral at Lincoln Cathedral, 12.45 p.m., Friday, 12th March. Family flowers only.

WIGG.—On March 8th, at Moreton-in-Marsh Hospital, Canon Charles Elliot Wigg. Funeral Friday, 12th March, at St. Lawrence Church, North Hinksey, Oxford at 3.00 p.m.

WILKIN, JOHN H.—On 7th March, 1976 at Poole Hospital. Funeral Service, Thursday, 11th March at Parkstone Cemetery at 3 p.m.

WILLIAMS.—On March 8th, 1976, peacefully at home, Megan Williams, beloved wife of the Most Reverend Gwilym Owen Williams, Bishop of Wales, and dear mother of Fabian. Funeral Friday, March 12th, at Bangor Cathedral at 2 p.m. No flowers, donations, if desired, to Bangor Diocesan Housing Association per Lloyds Bank Ltd., 268 High Street, Bangor, Gwynedd.

WILLIAMS.—On March 5th, 1976, peacefully at Townlands Hospital, Henley on Thames, Nora Ellen, wife of the late Lt Col. W. P. Williams, 18th Royal Irish and Essex Regiments.

WITHERS.—On 8th March, 1976, peacefully in London, Lizette, wife of the late Captain E. C. Withers, dearly loved mother, grandmother and great grandmother. Funeral at the South London Crematorium, Rowan Road, Streatham, on Friday, 12th March at 4.10 pm. Family flowers only. Donations to the Officers' Association 28 Belgrave Square, London.

EL MIRGHANI

On March 1st, 1976, Fatima, passed peacefully away, in Kartoum, North Sudan, widow, of Sayed Sir Ali El Mirghani, leader of the Khatmiya Sect of Sudan, and mother of Sayed Mohammed Ososman El Mirghani, and Sayed Ahmed El Mirghani.

FUNERALS

HARPER, GEORGE MacGOWAN. The funeral service will take place on Friday, 12th March, at 12 noon, at Kelsale Church, Saxmundham, Suffolk. No wreaths, please, cut flowers, if desired, to the church.

MEMORIAL SERVICES

DOSSETOR.—A Service of Remembrance for Mrs. Jean McKinlay Dossetor (nee Calder), M.B.E., sometime of 37-39, Knightsbridge, London, SW1 and Edinburgh. Territorial Army Nursing Service, 1916-1920 and former Chief Nursing Officer of The London County Council, will be held St. Paul's Church, Wilton Place, London, SW1, on Thursday, 25th March, at 12.15 p.m.

IN MEMORIAM

HARRIS.—Many happy returns of the day with love and kisses to you dear old Dad and "Gen". We are all thinking of you.—Horace, Billie, Jacky, Bunty and Peter.

H.E. SIR RICHARD SHARPLES. K.C.M.G., O.B.E., M.C., Governor and Commander in Chief of Bermuda, assassinated March 10th, 1973. Remembered with our love. Pam.

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FORTHCOMING EVENTS

LIVING WITH DYSLEXIA

Conference, Saturday, 27th March, for those who need to help children and young people with specific reading and spelling difficulties in school, clinic, home and towards a career. Details: The Secretary, North London Dyslexia Association, 78 Whitehall Park, London N19 3TN. Tel. 01-272 1551.

GONE LIKE a will o' the wisp? Now how to replace them? If staffing puts you in a quandary, then you need a selective media, a specialized market, and an economical source? The Times "Focus on Recruitment Opportunities" due to appear on March 25th with the proposed subheading: Computer, Legal, Financial, Graduates, School Leavers, Engineers, Public and Educational, Scientists and Technologists, Banking and Insurance, Overseas, Surveyors and Architects, Sales and Marketing, and Non-Secretarial, offers you a unique quality readership. To book your space and for more details ring The Times Appointments Team, 01-278 9161.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

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SPECIAL FORCES CLUB

The 30th Annual General Meeting will be held at 8 Herbert Crescent, London, S.W.1, on Wednesday, 31st March, 1976, at 6.30 p.m.

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CLARKE nee DUNSTER, LAURA ESTHER CLARKE nee DUNSTER, widow, late of 28 Rozel Road, Horfield, Bristol, died at Bristol on 20th January, 1974 (estate about £7,850).

PHILLIPS.—**ALEXANDER PHILLIPS,** late of 12 Darwin Road, Bedford, died at Bedford on 12th February, 1975 (estate about £3,400).

POULTER.—**FRANCES EMILY POULTER,** spinster, late of 15 St. Marks Place, Windsor, Berkshire, died there on 23rd October, 1975 (estate about £10,000).

The kin of the above-named are requested to apply to the Treasury Solicitor (B.V.), 12 Buckingham Gate, Westminster, London, SW1, failing which the Treasury Solicitor may take steps to administer the estate.

UNWANTED—LOST. Daily they arrive, the strays and abandoned, the sick and injured. The Wood Green Animal Shelter, 601, Lordship Lane, London, N.22 (Hon. Treasurer, Dr. Margaret Young) has cared for these animals since 1924. It has a free Clinic for the sick, a cat sanctuary and a Home for the strays and unwanted at Heydon, nr. Royston, Herts. Please help to keep the work going by sending a donation. Visitors welcomed.

MEET OTHER INTERESTING young (20-35) graduates and professional people at some of the 104 cultural, sports and social events on the March programme of the London Intervarsity Club. Come to the club premises, 117 Queensway, W.2, any Wed., 7.30-9 p.m., or write to Michael Kirk (T) for details.

IF YOU LIKE social and cultural events and enjoy meeting interesting people then discover the Way-In Club. Write: 6 Horse Shoe Yard, Brook St., London, W.1 or phone 01-629 3328 anytime.

FLAT RACING, '76.—1/12 shares in well-bred 2-year-old filly, £135, plus £5 weekly expenses from April.—Tel. 0621 816698.

ASSISTANT for Royal College of Surgeons. See Non-Sec. Appts.

ARCHITECT/ECONOMIST seeks permanent position anywhere. See Situations Wanted.

REDECORATING OR ALTERATIONS? See Business to Business.

BEST VALUE air fares. See Major Travel. See Hols. & Villas.

2½ ACRE LAKE FOR SALE.—See land for sale.

NORTH YORKSHIRE guide takes the wait off your mind.

CAPABLE GIRL, look after children, 20th April for 4 weeks.—See Domestic Situations.

FRENCH STUDENT, 22, wishes to stay in U.K. as paying guest from March 20th to April 13th. Make offer to M. Mathaud 77 FBG St. Martin, 75010 Paris.

CONSERVATION AREA N.1.—Charming Victorian house. See property under £25,000.

£25,000 Building Society Repayment Mortgage wanted on principal residence worth far in excess of this by private individual with substantial income. Write Box 2693 S The Times.

SUPER ACCOMMODATION + SALARY. See Domestic Sits.

SCHOOL / UNIVERSITY LEAVER filling in time? See Gen. Vacs.

" BOLTON HOUSE Standing in Grave Dignity on the edge of Windmill Hill has memorable Literary Associations." —See London and Suburban Property.

S.W.3. Secretary, sole charge. See La Creme de la creme.

TWO YOUNG TEACHERS needed.—See Educational.

LUXURY in Old Hampstead. See Rentals.

AUTHOR'S DELIGHT ?—See Situations Wanted.

THE ROMAN Tridentine Mass is still celebrated at many centres in the U.K. Details (s.a.e.) to MCL (T), 4, Homelands, Leatherhead, Surrey.

MAY WE COME TO TEA one Sunday afternoon? Contact needs hostesses to have lonely old people to tea. 01-240 0630.

DON'T HORSES need holidays too? The Home of Rest for Horses provides rest and recuperation for hard worked horses, roomy boxes, good grazing and a resident veterinary surgeon are part of the service which depends entirely on voluntary donations. Please send whatever you can. The Secretary, The Home of Rest for Horses, Speen Farm, Aylesbury, Bucks Hampden Row 464.

WINDSKATE. Exciting new mini land yacht.—See Sport and Recreation.

EXCAVATORS required for neolithic excavation from now until end June. Accommodation, etc., available. Apply J. Williams, Archaeologist, Northampton Development Corporation, Bedford Road, Northampton, NN4 0AY.

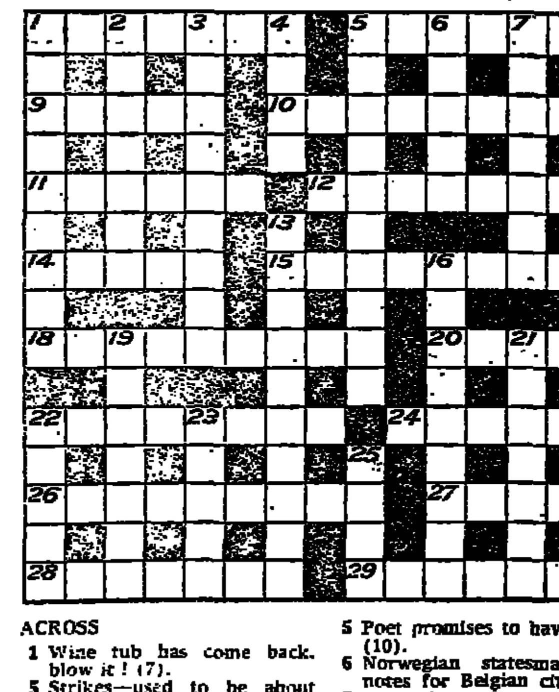
ALL WHO remember Hallie & Eustace Miles & Dora B-G write Mrs Dora Waters, 252 E. 2nd St., New York City 10009.

BRIDGE.—Learn at Young Chelsea.—See Services.

CHAMPAGNE FOR WEDDINGS 10% Discount.—See 'For Sale' Column.

CLASSICAL Quantum synthesis Sensational new theory.—A. Gordon, M.A., 7 Belsize Park Gardens, London N.W.3.

The Times Crossword Puzzle No 14,247



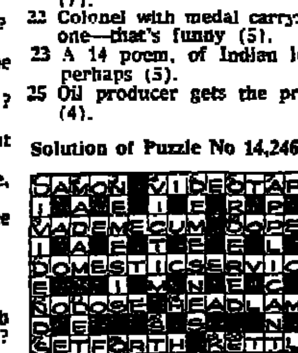
ACROSS

1 Wine tub has come back, blow it ! (7).
5 Strikes—used to be about votes returned (7).
9 US capital for start of hockey match (5).
10 With which our policemen get stuffed ? (9).
11 Very sad soldier enters returning vehicle (6).
12 Grey is to study Maugham's work (8).
14 Celebrated school back and Derbyshire opener (5).
15 Whims of the staff ? (9).
18 Possibly we don't include people showing special capacity (9).
20 Mark V Melville work? (5).
22 Two way retreat might be heroic (8).
24 Tool for £100 ? Is he crazy ? (6).
26 Notes made roughly about Colonel Sebastian (9).
27 Literally the last love game, perhaps (5).
28 Many with gold lace wrecked in this vessel (7).
29 Leftish girl ? (7).

DOWN

1 Vehicle upset on rough ascent—what's the matter ? (9).
2 Scots boy is unable to get round everyone (7).
3 Feature of "Sea View" ? (3, 6).
4 Ex-President enters contest after all (4).
5 Poet promises to have merit (10).
6 Norwegian statesman gets notes for Belgian city (5).
7 Deliveries expected but behind time (7).
8 Employer looking for idle hands ? (5).
13 Bill's favourable reception ? (10).
16 Sheriff's officer has fish caught on river over two pounds (9).
17 Ready ? Let's fiddle the balance (9).
19 Musician on strike ? (7).
21 French chemist covers the old town with fake jewelry (7).
22 Colonel with medal carrying one—that's funny (5).
23 A 14 poem, of Indian love perhaps (5).
25 Oil producer gets the prize (4).

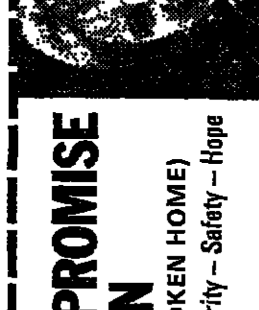
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ALSO ON PAGE 27

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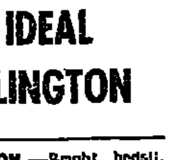
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